

# SESSION WRAP-UP

Dear Neighbor,

It remains a privilege and honor to serve as your state representative. The 2023 legislative session is in the rearview mirror, and I wanted to take a moment to check in and share some highlights from the past several months.

We worked hard to deliver a budget that adheres to our fiscal guardrails while still providing hundreds of millions in more funding to our local schools, colleges, universities, and services for our most vulnerable residents, and deliver a historic personal income tax cut. We did it by working together.

I'd love to hear from you if you would like more details or have any questions on the initiatives addressed in this legislative update. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance to you or your family.

Sincerely,



## BIG WINS FOR GREENWICH AND STAMFORD

- ✓ Historic personal income tax cut, and funding for public schools
- ✓ \$6.5M for Greenwich Boys & Girls Club
- ✓ \$461,078 in Local Capital Improvement bonding for Greenwich
- ✓ \$1,206,128 in Local Capital Improvement bonding for Stamford
- ✓ \$150k for food waste diversion for Greenwich Public Schools



# 2023 LEGISLATIVE RECAP

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE RACHEL KHANNA

PROUDLY SERVING GREENWICH AND STAMFORD

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# 2023 SESSION LEGISLATIVE RECAP



## FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE RACHEL KHANNA

PROUDLY SERVING GREENWICH AND STAMFORD



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# OUR BIPARTISAN BUDGET INCLUDED HISTORIC TAX CUTS!

## A STATE BUDGET FOCUSED ON:



### CUTTING YOUR TAXES

Our budget included the **largest Personal Income Tax cut in CT history** by cutting marginal income tax rates, increasing the Earned Income Tax Credit, capping mill rates, and eliminating even more retirement income taxes.



### FUNDING RAINY DAY FUND AND PENSION LIABILITIES

Our budget **deposited \$3.3B** in the state's Rainy Day Fund and **paid down \$2.1B** in unfunded pension liabilities.



### INVESTING IN OUR STUDENTS

Our budget **invested over \$240M in public education** by stabilizing our state colleges and universities, expanding debt-free community college, fully funding our schools and local boards of education, and increasing scholarships and student debt relief.



### SAFETY NET SERVICES

Our budget expanded Temporary Family Assistance, increased Husky C. eligibility, provided funds to community action agencies for residents facing immediate economic hardship, supported the 9-8-8 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, and increased Medicaid rate reimbursements for providers and specialists.



### IDD SUPPORTS

Our budget **invested over \$30M to better serve Intellectually or Developmentally Disabled individuals** by addressing agency waiting lists for services, bolstering employment opportunities, increasing Husky C eligibility, and breaking down silos for better coordination and data collection.

## PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

- Responded to the municipal solid waste crisis with new funding for facilities and mandatory food scrap diversion at colleges, hospitals, and nursing homes.
- Provided additional funding to towns to deal with harmful chemicals like PFAS.
- Banned hand-harvesting of horseshoe crabs.
- Allowed permits for factories, waste plants, and other polluters to be denied or have conditions on them when they are proposed in locations that have historically dealt with high levels of pollution.
- Protected migratory birds by requiring state-owned and leased buildings to turn off unnecessary outdoor lighting.



## SUPPORTING WORKERS AND SMALL BUSINESS

- Required full disclosure of hidden fees on small business loans, ensured access to judicial hearings in a dispute, and required any loan offers to be good for at least three days.
- Cut the number of reporting requirements for businesses.
- Made it easier for small contractors to bid on state projects.
- Expanded JobsCT to increase employment and job creation in our state.
- Cut business taxes to promote expansion of childcare facilities.

## MAKING CT SAFER

- Strengthened our gun violence prevention laws.
- Made it illegal for adults to solicit photos and videos from children online, even if they're not explicitly sexual.
- Formed a special police task force to deal with abuse of children online.
- Expanded GPS monitoring of domestic violence offenders.
- Modernized our blight laws and extended local enforcement to commercial properties.
- Created a \$5 million Firefighters' Fund for firefighters' cancer relief.



## EXPANDING REPRODUCTIVE AND VOTING RIGHTS

- Allowed pharmacists to prescribe emergency contraceptives and guaranteed their availability in case of an emergency.
- Enacted early voting – providing voting opportunities 14 days before Election Day for general elections, 7 days before most primaries, and 4 days before special elections and the Presidential primary.
- Approved a resolution that will ask voters in the Nov. 2024 election whether we should have no excuse absentee ballots.
- Adopted anti-discrimination laws around voting.



## INVESTING IN CHILDREN AND EDUCATION

- Created reimbursements to schools that purchase local foods for their school meals.
- Improved protocols and supports to enhance classroom safety for educators and students.
- Expanded school-based apprenticeship opportunities in aviation and aerospace, training for future paraeducators, and dual credit/enrollment opportunities.
- Created tax credits and incentives for towns and businesses that build workforce housing, including for teachers, police officers, and firefighters.
- Required high schoolers to take a financial literacy class before graduating.