

Dear Neighbor,

The 2026 legislative session focused on protecting Connecticut from the wildly chaotic economy being whiplashed daily by the Trump Administration, as well as other big issues like elections, standing up for working families, funding our schools, and the state budget.

We made historic investments in police, fire, EMS, veterans, teachers and health care workers. Voters demanded better access to absentee ballots, and we ensured their voices were heard. We know that property taxes are too high, so we made sure every city and town received more state funding with the direction to lower mill rates if possible.

It was a three-month legislative session, and we had mountains to move. This newsletter has more details about the legislation we passed and key policy initiatives from the 2026 session.

It's an honor and privilege to be your State Representative; thank you for this wonderful ability to serve you and our community.

Warmly,



MORE STATE FUNDING, LESS PROPERTY TAX PRESSURE

Every additional **state dollar** that helps fund our schools, projects, and local services is **one less dollar** that has to come **from your** local **property taxes**

That's why I prioritize bringing more of your tax dollars back to Cheshire, Wallingford, and Hamden

- **95% State Funding** Secured for Cheshire High School **Turf and Track**
- **\$1.5 million** Funding Construction of **New Fire Station** in Hamden
- **\$6.5 million** in Solar Projects for **Cheshire Schools**, **Saving Energy Costs** for **Years** to Come
- Grants for Open Space
- **Historically High** Reimbursement for New School Construction in Cheshire and Wallingford, **Saving** Tens of **Millions** of Dollars



DEPUTY SPEAKER LIZ LINEHAN

PROUDLY SERVING CHESHIRE, HAMDEN AND WALLINGFORD

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HARTFORD, CT
Permit No. 3937

CAPITOL UPDATE 26

Representative Liz Linehan
Legislative Office Building, Room 4000
Hartford, CT 06106-1591



CAPITOL UPDATE 2026

DEPUTY SPEAKER

LIZ LINEHAN

PROUDLY SERVING CHESHIRE, HAMDEN AND WALLINGFORD

CONTACT ME ANY TIME:

- 📞 860-240-8585
- ✉ Liz.Linehan@cga.ct.gov
- 🌐 housedems.ct.gov/Linehan
- 📘 facebook.com/RepLinehan



DEPUTY SPEAKER LIZ LINEHAN

CAPITOL UPDATE 2026



MAJOR ACTS

- Strengthened the Trust Act, **Fighting** Against Abuse and **Intimidation** by ICE
- Groundbreaking **AI Policies** and **Consumer Protections**
- Expanded **Absentee Voting** and Protects the **Safety of Poll Workers** and **Voters**

This is just a snippet of the many ways we've protected the vulnerable, strengthened your safety, and answered the calls for justice.

Scan this QR Code for a direct link to all the Major Acts passed this session.



HELPING NON-PROFITS AT HOME

In addition to the \$115.2 million in total state aid (a \$6.17 million increase), we're helping our homegrown non-profits right here in our backyards

- ✓ \$1.5 million for Wallingford YMCA
- ✓ \$722,000 to **Cheshire Land Trust**
- ✓ \$500,000 to **Wallingford Historic Land Trust**
- ✓ \$250,000 to **Eli's Garden of Healing**
- ✓ \$250,000 for the **Hamden Children's Center**
- ✓ \$100,000 for **Clelian Adult Day Center** dementia program in Hamden
- ✓ \$100,000 for **Help for Our Neighbors** in Cheshire

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT & OPEN SPACE

- Reversed a conveyance of **state land** in Cheshire from land for a warehouse to now include **open space**
- Solar users can now **keep** and **use more** of the **energy** you create **without** selling back to the grid
- **Protected** striped bass from **overfishing**
- Grant to **create hiking trails, kayak launch, and farmland space** in Cheshire
- Created statewide **training** for **local** Inland and **Wetlands Commissions**
- **Expanded farm** investment **tax credit** program
- **Rapid response** program for invasive species



Rep Linehan fishes at her favorite spot on the Farmington River

ADDRESSING AFFORDABILITY

REDUCES PROPERTY TAX INCREASES AND CREATES TAX CREDITS, FUNDS EDUCATION, AND MORE

- **\$190 million** additional direct support for schools
- **\$100 million** to **mitigate** local **property tax increases**
- **\$12 million** for **free school breakfast**
- **\$300 million** to endowment for CT's universal daycare starting 2027
- **\$500 million** in **Federal Cuts** Response **Fund**
- **\$115 million** to reverse federal cuts to **healthcare** insurance subsidies, keeping premiums from doubling
- **Created** family caregiver **tax credit**
- Made school supplies **tax-free**
- All while staying **under** the **budget** cap and maxing out the rainy day fund!

PROTECTING OUR MOST VULNERABLE RESIDENTS

- Allowed schools to disclose **teacher sexual misconduct** investigations during reference checks
- **Gave** sexual assault **survivors a voice** in court before charges are dismissed
- Strengthened **protections** for **nursing home residents**
- Strengthened **protections** for people with **intellectual disabilities**
- Required **AI chatbots** to **detect** self-harm and violence **risks**
- **Expanded** dental **care** for **veterans**
- **Enacted** common-sense homeschool reforms **to protect children** while respecting parental rights



CAPITOL NEWS BRIEFING
Regarding the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
detainment of a student from Cheshire High School

