

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**DAVID MICHEL**

**LEGISLATIVE  
SESSION UPDATE**

Dear Neighbors,

I am proud of many of the proposals we are working on passing this year that will help create greater economic opportunity, reduce the cost of living on residents and ensure the health and safety of future generations.

The General Assembly will review each proposal carefully; your opinions will be important in crafting the best possible legislation.

You can follow the committee process by visiting the:

- CGA website at [www.cga.ct.gov](http://www.cga.ct.gov) to view the schedule of events, stream House sessions online or track a bill.
- You can also track bills by visiting <http://bit.ly/CTBillTracking> and registering to track bills as they make their way through the process.

I look forward to hearing from you throughout the session. Please visit my state Facebook page [www.facebook.com/repdavidmichel](http://www.facebook.com/repdavidmichel).



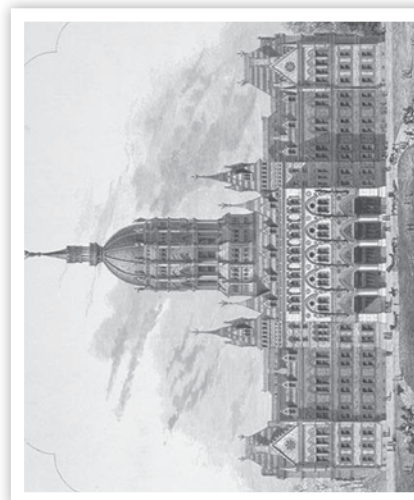
**P.S. ONE OF THE BEST WAYS TO STAY UP-TO-DATE  
IS BY SIGNING UP FOR MY E-BLASTS.**

**SIGN UP ONLINE AT  
[www.housedems.ct.gov/Michel](http://www.housedems.ct.gov/Michel)  
to get my legislative updates!**

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

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**DAVID MICHEL**

PROUDLY SERVING THE CITY OF STAMFORD



**LEGISLATIVE  
SESSION UPDATE**



STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**DAVID MICHEL**



# STATE REPRESENTATIVE DAVID MICHEL - PROUDLY REPRESENTING STAMFORD



I had the opportunity to visit Toaquam school and speak with their 4th graders about being a State Representative and how our state government works. I was also privileged to tour the school's dental health clinic, where they are successfully eliminating barriers to dental health access for children.



## Promoting Responsible Off Shore Wind Energy

During this session, I have been working to strengthen proposed legislation guiding the procurement of offshore wind in Connecticut. As part of our state's effort to generate and move toward renewable energy, it has been my priority to ensure that we not only move forward with this effort but doing it right; changing our habits to protect our sea life. House Bill 7156 includes a commission that will establish guidelines for the state and our utilities to move forward with offshore wind technology that creates the minimal impact on our ecosystem and commercial fishing. The bill is a good first step but must go further in closely evaluating the impact of renewable energy on the environment. We have the opportunity to create hundreds to thousands of jobs in new industries that will be the cornerstone of our economy for decades. But we also have a responsibility to protect the up to 1 million species that are at risk from irrevocable climate change.

## Strengthening our state's gun safety laws

Connecticut continues to lead on passing responsible gun safety laws and I am proud to have voted for legislation that continues that track record. HB 7218, better known as "Ethan's Law", would require a gun, loaded or unloaded, be properly stored so minors cannot access the firearm. The bill was prompted by the death of 15-year-old Ethan Song who died at a friend's house after being shot with an improperly stored gun and due to a loophole; the owner of the gun could not be prosecuted. HB 7219 ensures people that can't buy a gun aren't building untraceable guns and assault weapons from parts purchased online or by using a 3D printer, otherwise known as "Ghost Guns." And, to deter firearms from being stolen from vehicles and reduce crime in Connecticut cities, HB 7223 would require a gun stored in a securely locked safe in an unattended motor vehicle.

## Animal Advocacy and Protecting our Environment

As an animal welfare and environmental activist, I have been working on several bills safeguarding the wellbeing of animals and our natural resources. I have co-sponsored legislation to remove Styrofoam containers and Styrofoam trays as well as legislation that would remove single use plastic shopping bags and straws from daily commercial use. Plastic bags never completely decompose and can contaminate soil and waterways. Animals can ingest them resulting in over 100,000 marine animal deaths every year.

I have also worked with my colleagues in an effort to prohibit pet shops in state from selling dogs, cats, and rabbits originating from puppy mills and other cruel commercial breeding facilities. This will be a critical step in expanding animal advocacy as policy in Connecticut. (HB 5384, HB 5385, SB 229, SB 1003, HB 5386).

## Raising our Minimum Wage to a more fair wage

In Connecticut, the average livable wage is \$19.20 per hr. In the House, we've taken a step closer to making that wage a reality. HB 5004 increases the minimum wage over the next few years to \$15 per hr in 2023. No one who works full-time should live in poverty, but many of our state's residents struggle to support themselves and their families because wages are too low and have not been increased from \$10.10 since 2017. Increasing the minimum wage would protect low-wage workers, strengthen economic security, increase their purchasing power and enhance the state's economy.



Sign up for my e-newsletter and other official updates at [www.housedems.ct.gov/Michel](http://www.housedems.ct.gov/Michel) and follow me on Facebook

Phone: 860.240.8585 | e-mail: [David.Michel@cga.ct.gov](mailto:David.Michel@cga.ct.gov)  
Legislative Office Building, 300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106  
[www.housedems.ct.gov/Michel](http://www.housedems.ct.gov/Michel)