

SESSION WRAP-UP

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

I'm proud to have worked on a budget that delivers historic tax cuts and increased funding for students, families, and our most vulnerable residents, while paying down our long-term debt, including an additional \$2.072 billion in unfunded future pension liability.

Most importantly, we did it by working together – without gimmicks or partisan politics. We prioritized education, supported non-profits, and invested in public safety without the fighting you see in Washington.

I'd love to hear from you if you would like more details or have any questions on any of the initiatives addressed in this legislative update.

Sincerely,



BIG WINS FOR BETHEL & DANBURY

- ✓ Historic funding for schools
- ✓ Massive deposit into Rainy Day Fund
- ✓ Sensible/sustainable budget
- ✓ CT a beacon for reproductive healthcare
- ✓ Modern voting system with early voting
- ✓ Invest in growing healthcare workforce

NEW LAWS FOR 2023-24

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE RAGHIB ALLIE-BRENNAN

PROUDLY SERVING BETHEL & DANBURY

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EN ESPAÑOL

Escanee el código QR
o comuníquese con mi
oficina para ver este
boletín en español



NEW LAWS IN CONNECTICUT

2023
2024



FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE RAGHIB ALLIE-BRENNAN

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PROTECTING LOCAL CONTROL OF ZONING

This session I introduced multiple bipartisan bills to create greater opportunities for affordable housing while respecting local control. After three decades, 8-30g and other statutes eroding local control have both failed to meet their economic goals and have undermined our communities. This legislative session I built a bipartisan coalition that stopped proposed legislation that would have further eroded local control of planning and zoning.

I believe in the power of our 169 towns, cities, and communities when it comes to land-use and zoning decisions and will continue to hold the line while working to advance our affordable housing goals.

SUPPORTING WORKERS & SMALL BUSINESSES

- Cut the number of reporting requirements for businesses
- 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
- Allowed existing cigar bars and clubs in our larger cities to serve alcohol
- Permanently allowed restaurants to sell alcohol for off-site consumption
- Supported CT farm wineries by allowing them to open up to three retail locations
- Cut business taxes to promote expansion of childcare facilities
- Made it easier for small contractors to bid on state projects

OUR BIPARTISAN BUDGET INCLUDES HISTORIC TAX CUTS!

A STATE BUDGET FOCUSED ON:



CUTTING YOUR TAXES

Our budget includes 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.



INDUSTRY GROWTH

Our budget **supports CT's growing industries** such as childcare, adult-use cannabis, manufacturing, and media, film, and theater production.



INVESTING IN OUR STUDENTS

Our budget **invests 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 expands Temporary Family Assistance, increases Husky C eligibility, provides funds to community action agencies for residents facing immediate economic hardship, supports the 9-8-8 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, and increases Medicaid rate reimbursements for providers and specialists.



IDD SUPPORTS

Our budget **invests 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.

MAKING CT SAFER

In response to the rise of domestic violence and intimate partner homicide throughout Connecticut, I introduced bipartisan legislation to define and create a crime for domestic violence and intimate partner murder, making it a Class A felony. This act is a vital step toward addressing these crimes and ensuring that justice is served, and I look forward to working with leadership to get it over the finish line in the next legislative session.

- Expanded GPS monitoring of domestic violence offenders
- Created a harm reduction pilot program to prevent overdoses – allowing people to access fentanyl and xylazine tests, receive counseling and other services – under the care of licensed providers.
- Established a dedicated funding source for the bulk purchase of Narcan for towns, schools, local police and health departments, and EMS companies
- Allowed over-the-counter drugs as well as Narcan, and other lifesaving opioid antagonists, to be sold through regulated vending machines
- Required driver's ed classes to cover driving under the influence of cannabis
- Expanded speed enforcement on rural roads
- Improved data collection on use of and compliance with police body and dashboard cameras
- Improved data collection on crimes involving firearms
- Created electronic notifications for expiring gun permits

STANDING UP FOR CT CONSUMERS

This session we passed our second overhaul of electric utility accountability and regulation aimed at cutting consumer costs. PA 23-102 enhances the role of the Public Utility Regulatory Authority (PURA) Commissioner and provides the ability to adopt a more aggressive approach toward regulated utilities and prohibits Eversource from passing off their lobbying and marketing expenses through rate hikes.

- Responded to inflation by freezing scheduled increases on the diesel tax – helping lower the cost of groceries and other commodities
- Required companies that charge you through an auto-renewal subscription to get your permission before charging you for the next billing cycle
- Insisted that companies that lease oil and fuel tanks remove them within 30 days after a customer cancels
- Protected precise geolocation data under our data privacy laws and created more stringent standards for targeted advertising to children
- Required event tickets to clearly state the final price, even before you check out online
- Restricted more types of telemarketing calls, texts, and social media solicitations and limited the hours that telemarketing can take place
- Demanded TV and cable companies give you a prorated refund if you cancel before the end of your billing cycle