

Dear Neighbor,

The main focus of the 2022 legislative session is to make adjustments to the \$46 billion biennium state budget. In 2021, I worked hard with a coalition of Democrats & Republicans to fight off calls to raise taxes on individuals and businesses. I am pleased to report that the principles of that budget were not adjusted and with the unexpected growth due to the volatility cap and with federal funding, we were able to designate much-needed funding to areas of the state that have been previously underfunded. Early in the process, I set the benchmark that any new spending could not result in additional taxation or set us up for failure in the future when programs were unsustainable; both of those benchmarks were met. We continue to pay down the massive state debt incurred over decades. The historic payments of \$3.6 billion in 2022, coupled with the \$3.3 billion rainy day fund have improved the long-term economic outlook for the state of Connecticut.

I continued to serve as the house chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, which works directly with, supports, and has oversight of the State Department of Veterans Affairs, the Connecticut Military Department including the Army & Air National Guard as well as DECD's Office of Military Affairs. The committee was extremely successful in passing and funding initiatives to support veterans and pro-military policies to support the active-duty military personnel, including the members of the United States Navy stationed at the New London Submarine Base.

I continued to have an open dialog directly with local businesses and work collaboratively with the Connecticut Business & Industry Association as well as the local Chamber of Commerce to enact policies that encourage business growth in Connecticut. Of note, the state invested \$40 million into the Unemployment Trust Fund which was hit hard by COVID.

It has been the honor of my lifetime to serve the residents of five towns in Northeastern Connecticut and if there is anything my office or I can do to assist you, please do not hesitate to reach out via email pat.boyd@cga.ct.gov

Sincerely,

Pat Boyd



Rep. Boyd & Brooklyn's Jeff Otto upon his retirement as chair of the Quinebaug Valley Emergency Communications Board



Ribbon cutting for the new Woodstock Building Associates facility on Rt. 171



STATE REPRESENTATIVE PAT BOYD

PROUDLY SERVING POMFRET, BROOKLYN,
WOODSTOCK, EASTFORD AND UNION

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CAPITOL UPDATE 2022

Representative Pat Boyd
Legislative Office Building, Room 4000
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CAPITOL UPDATE 2022



FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE PAT BOYD PROUDLY SERVING POMFRET, BROOKLYN, WOODSTOCK, EASTFORD AND UNION

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Rep. Boyd welcoming home 200 of Connecticut's Army & Air National Guard from deployment

SERVING THOSE WHO SERVE US

As chair of the Veterans Committee, I worked hard to pass legislation for veterans, and active military and their families. I was proud to lead the following initiatives through the legislative process:

- Guaranteed CT veterans in-state tuition rates. (PA 22-101)
- Established a new, local-option property tax exemption equal to 10% of home values for more veterans. (PA 22-34)
- Created new license plates for veterans who served in Afghanistan or Iraq. (PA 22-34)

TAX RELIEF FOR CONNECTICUT

- Increases the property tax credit from \$200 to \$300 and expands eligibility to all homeowners. (PA 22-118)
- Eliminates the pension and annuity income taxes for a majority of retirees. (PA 22-118)
- Establishes a CT Child Tax Credit which provides middle and working class families with \$250 per child, for up to 3 children. Apply at <https://egov.ct.gov/drschildrebateform> by July 31, 2022. (PA 22-118)
- Extends the 25 cent gas tax suspension until November 30, 2022. (PA 22-118)
- Increases the Earned Income Tax Credit. (PA 22-118)

BUSINESSES, SCHOOLS & NON-PROFITS

- Provides funding and guidance on maintaining the best indoor air quality in our public schools. (PA 22-118)
- Provides \$40 million to the Unemployment Trust Fund to help our state's businesses. (PA 22-118)
- Not-for-profits that perform state functions will receive a 6.5% increase. (PA 22-118)
- Expands eligibility for the debt-free community college program to part-time students. (PA 22-118)

CAPITOL UPDATE 2022

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE

PAT BOYD

INITIATIVES CHAMPIONED BY REP. BOYD

- \$200,000 to Woodstock Academy to establish a Regional Drug & Alcohol Counseling Office.
- June 15, 2022 - Opening of the Putnam DMV Office.
- Launching of the Community Investment Fund, which the town of Brooklyn is an eligible community.
- Successful advocacy for the expansion of Environmental Conservation (EnCon) Police Officers within the Department of Energy & Environmental Protection. I often hear that Mashamoquet Brook State Park, Natchaug State Forest, and Bigelow Hollow State Park are under served due to the small size of the EnCon force. The budget authorized six additional officers and a sergeant.
- \$5 million to directly support Day Kimball Healthcare as they are one of the last independent hospitals in Connecticut.
- Hosted a Veterans Suicide Prevention Policy Summit.
- Officially launched the Veteran Wartime license plate initiative. The new plates will be available to veterans whose discharge papers identify specific periods of conflict, including the Afghanistan War, the Iraq War, Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, Operation Will, the Persian Gulf War, the Vietnam war, the Korean War, and World War II.
- Successfully advocated for the suspension of the state gas tax, and I continue to work for the suspension of the diesel tax.



Rep. Boyd, Eastford's Scramble the Duck II, Senator Champaigne and the Torcellini Family



Rep. Boyd & Future Farmers of America

SUPPORTING SENIORS

This session, we passed a budget that helps make our state more affordable for seniors. This budget, Public Act 22 -118:

- Eliminates the pension and annuity income taxes for a majority of retirees.
- Increases funding for nutrition programs like Meals on Wheels.
- Lowers the co-pay for the Connecticut Home Care Program for Elders from 4.5% to 3% so that more older adults in Connecticut can receive long-term care in their own home.
- Establishes a Community Ombudsman Program for Home Care to support residents who receive Medicaid home and community-based long-term services.
- Aligns the Medicaid state plan with federal law to set the minimum community spouse resource allowance at \$50,000. This will help low- and middle-income residents stay in their home if their spouse enters a nursing home.
- Continues telehealth options.
- Increases funding for local nonprofits like the Access Agency which serve seniors in our community. (PA 22 - 118)



Rep. Boyd with First Selectwoman Deb Richards, Chief Doug Beaudoin, & Assistant Chief James Roy on the 80th Anniversary of incorporation of the Eastford Independent Fire Company #1

INVESTING IN PUBLIC SAFETY

- Adopted higher fire department equipment standards, collecting better data on the prevalence of cancer among firefighters, and secured more local funding for firefighters who leave service with a cancer diagnosis. (PA 22-139)
- Provided in funding \$500 per call to local volunteer fire departments who respond to emergencies on certain state highways. (PA 22-118)
- Allows EMS organizations to get a motor vehicle fuel tax refund for fuel used in ambulances. (PA 22-118)
- Increases funding to address juvenile crime. (PA 22-118)
- Created a public health reporting system for homeowners who have an abundance of salt in their drinking water. (PA 22-118)