

SUPPORTING LOCAL INDUSTRIES AND FARMS

- Required full disclosure of hidden fees on small business loans and required any loan offers to be good for at least three days (SB 1032)
- Cut the number of reporting requirements for businesses (PA 23-4)
- Supported CT farm wineries by allowing them to open up to three retail locations (PA 23-49)
- Cut business taxes to promote the expansion of childcare facilities (HB 6941)
- Made it easier for small contractors to bid on state projects (HB 6941)
- Created a pool of money to support farmers impacted by adverse weather events
- Raised the ceiling on what the state could pay for farmland preservation



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 millions in additional funding to our towns, local schools, farms, and services for our most vulnerable residents. We did it by working together.

If you have any questions about this content or would like more information on my work on maternal and infant health, solar and farmland, services for those with intellectual disabilities and local school funding, please scan this QR code or reach out to my office!

Sincerely,

Jaime Foster



NEW LAWS IN CT: A YEAR IN REVIEW

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE JAIME FOSTER



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CAPITOL UPDATE 23

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CAPITOL UPDATE 2023

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE

JAIME FOSTER

SERVING EAST WINDSOR, ELLINGTON & VERNON

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE

JAIIME FOSTER

CAPITOL UPDATE 2023



BIG WINS FOR OUR DISTRICT

- \$1M for East Windsor from Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Fund in additional municipal aid
- More than \$135k in ARPA funds to improve our senior centers
- \$4M in Community Investment Funds for East Windsor's Park Hill and School Hill Water Line Extension project
- \$3.7M for Ellington Schools to improve school air quality
- More than \$750k in state grant funding for School Mental Health Specialists across the district
- Froze tax increases on diesel fuel (\$37.2m)

OUR BIPARTISAN BUDGET INCLUDES

LARGEST TAX CUT IN STATE HISTORY

- ✓ Cut \$600 million in middle-class taxes
- ✓ Increased the Earned Income Tax Credit for **fewer income taxes**
- ✓ Paid off over \$2 billion in future unfunded pension liabilities and obligations
- ✓ Phased out 100% of pension and annuity income from the state's income tax for single filers with an income of \$75K or less or \$150K for joint filers

WE INVESTED:

- ✓ More funding for K-12 education
- ✓ More funding for higher education
- ✓ More funding for nonprofits
- ✓ More funding for childcare
- ✓ More funding for services & supports for Intellectually and/or Developmentally Disabled individuals



WORKING WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT TO IMPROVE PUBLIC SAFETY

- Expanded GPS monitoring of domestic violence offenders (PA 23-106)
- Modernized our blight laws and extended local enforcement to commercial properties (PA 23-33)
- Expanded speed enforcement on rural roads (HB 6941)
- Improved data collection on crimes involving firearms (PA 23-69)
- Formed a special police task force to deal with online child abuse (HB 6941)
- Decreased the number of officers needed to go to court for ERPO hearings
- Created a task force on road takeovers

FIGHTING FOR OUR CHILDREN, TEACHERS AND SCHOOLS

- Moved up the eligibility age for starting kindergarten by three months (to align with more states) and will require more play-based learning from pre-K to grade 5 (HB 6880)
- Created reimbursements to schools that purchase local foods for their school meals (SB 1)
- Required high schoolers to take a financial literacy class before graduating (SB 1)

STANDING UP FOR SENIORS

- Allowed banks to freeze transactions when they suspect a senior is being scammed (SB 1088)
- Established a new coordinator of state services for people with dementia (PA 23-48)
- Strengthened patients' involvement in their homemaker care plans and streamlined the process for filing complaints (PA 23-48)
- Eliminated even more taxes on retirement (HB 6941)
- Restricted more types of telemarketing calls, texts, and social media solicitations and limited the hours that telemarketing can take place (PA 23-98)

BRINGING HOME SAVINGS FOR YOU!

- Provided additional funding to towns to deal with harmful chemicals like PFAS (PA 23-74)
- Boosted funding for vocational agriculture programs (\$7.2 million)
- Prohibited utility companies from passing off their lobbying and marketing expenses through rate hikes (PA 23-102)
- Demanded TV and cable companies give you a prorated refund if you cancel before the end of your billing cycle (PA 23-98)
- Expanded school-based apprenticeship opportunities in aviation and aerospace, training for future paraeducators, and dual credit/enrollment opportunities (PA 23-21)