



Dear Neighbor,

I am grateful for the privilege of representing you, the residents of Fairfield and now Bridgeport. Enclosed are highlights of the work we accomplished on your behalf this session.

This year's budget provides historic tax cuts to families and increased funding for both students and vulnerable residents. We paid down over \$2 billion of our long-term debt, and invested in our Rainy-Day Fund, now at \$3.3 billion, all with broad bipartisan support.

Enclosed you will find just a few highlights from our work together this session - work we do in collaboration with you. To hear a message from me, check out the enclosed QR code.

If you need information or assistance, please reach out to my office at (860) 240-8585. You can sign up for e-mail updates and follow me on social media for ongoing updates.

Thank you for taking a look at this information. Wishing you a safe and healthy autumn.

Take care,

Cristin

2023 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Largest and second largest tax cuts in CT history
- Cut more taxes on retirement income
- Historic funding for schools
- Massive deposit into Rainy Day Fund
- CT a beacon for reproductive healthcare
- Modern voting system with early voting
- Invest in growing healthcare workforce



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

CRISTIN MCCARTHY VAHEY

PROUDLY SERVING FAIRFIELD & BRIDGEPORT

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**CAPITOL
UPDATE 2023**

Representative Cristin McCarthy Vahey
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CAPITOL UPDATE 2023



FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE
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OUR BIPARTISAN BUDGET INCLUDES

LARGEST TAX CUT IN STATE HISTORY

- ✓ \$600 million middle class tax cut
- ✓ Increase Earned Income Tax Credit for lower income workers
- ✓ Expand cuts to retirement savings to benefit seniors

INVESTS:

- ✓ More funding for K-12 education
- ✓ More funding for higher education
- ✓ More funding for nonprofits
- ✓ More funding for childcare
- ✓ More funding for Fairfield & Bridgeport

VOTING AND TRANSPARENCY

- Developed guidelines for the implementation of early voting in 2024
- Approved no excuse absentee voting for placement on the 2024 ballot
- Adopted a Voting Rights Act to prevent voter discrimination



HELPING FAMILIES

- Addressed housing affordability and promoted homeownership
- Expanded assistance and health care coverage to refugees
- Created Student Loan Forgiveness and lower refinancing rates to support workforce development
- Launched Baby Bonds, which invests \$3,200 for every child who is born after July 1, 2023 and is eligible for the state's Medicaid program
- Expanded funding for Meals on Wheels and adult day services

KEEPING COMMUNITIES SAFE

- Strengthened gun violence prevention measures and funded \$3.9 million for Public Health's Gun Violence Prevention initiatives
- Required local traffic authorities to be trained in best practices
- Increased initiatives to eliminate traffic fatalities and injuries through infrastructure, enhanced enforcement and public awareness
- Ended child marriage for residents under age 18
- Created more stringent standards for targeted advertising to kids and formed a police task force to address abuse of children online



**SCAN THE QR CODE TO
WATCH A LEGISLATIVE
UPDATE FROM STATE
REP. MCCARTHY VAHEY**



HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Serving in my first year as co-chair of the Public Health Committee, I was proud to help lead the efforts which:

- Created a drug discount card for all residents
- Reduced facility fees charged by hospital systems
- Improved infant and maternal healthcare, including home visits for new mothers
- Protected access to reproductive healthcare by protecting providers from retribution
- Directed Tobacco Settlement funds to include vaping prevention
- Established a harm reduction center pilot program to reduce opioid deaths
- Assured evidence based, effective use of Opioid Settlement Funds by the state and municipalities
- Improved staffing ratio decisions and safety conditions for hospital nurses
- Increased opportunities for early detection screening for lung cancer

INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITY

This year's most significant local investments include:

- \$3.5 million for Bridgeport Public Schools
- \$350K for the Fairfield Senior Center
- \$2.5 million approved for Fairfield Rooster River flood mitigation
- \$42 million allocated for Bridgeport's Ox Brook and Rooster River
- \$15 million approved for the Total Mortgage Arena in Bridgeport
- \$117 million in retirement plan savings for the city of Bridgeport
- \$6.2 million for HVAC investments and air quality improvements for Fairfield Public Schools

