



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The 2024 legislative session came to an end in May, and I am proud of all we accomplished.

Our goals were to ensure that we invested in our priorities while preserving tax cuts for families and seniors. By passing our fiscal stabilization plan, we protected the largest tax cut in state history and ensured more retirement income would be tax exempt. We also increased funding for mental health, early childhood, higher education, and nonprofits. We had many important victories for New Haven as our delegation delivered significant financial support for our city government, board of education, and many organizations that you can read about in this newsletter.

It remains an honor and a privilege to serve as your state representative for the 97th District and the City of New Haven.

Thank you all so much for the faith you have put in me to continue to fight for you, and please feel free to reach out if I can ever be of assistance to you or your family.

Sincerely,

2024 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Providing Quality Care for Seniors
- Maintaining Historic Tax Cuts
- Making Childcare More Affordable and Accessible
- Maintaining CT's Future Fiscal Integrity



STATE REPRESENTATIVE AL PAOLILLO, JR.

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CAPITOL UPDATE 2024

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CAPITOL UPDATE 2024

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YOUR VOICE IN HARTFORD

PROTECTING TAX CUTS

WE PROTECTED A BIPARTISAN BIENNIUM BUDGET THAT INCLUDES HISTORIC TAX CUTS AND INVESTMENTS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

- LARGEST INCOME TAX CUT in state history
- Exempted even more retirement income from state taxes
- Record Rainy Day Fund
- Paid down generations of pension debt
- Biggest investment in public education ever
- Expansion of debt free community college

THIS SESSION WE PROTECTED THESE TAX CUTS AND INVESTED MILLIONS OF FEDERAL FUNDS IN:

- Early Childcare - \$21.8 million
- Nonprofits that provide valuable state services - \$50 million
- Mental Health - \$24 million
- Higher Ed - \$160 million

FUNDING FOR THE 97TH DISTRICT

As a part of the 2-year state budget we protected, New Haven is expected to receive over **\$14.4 million** in increased State Aid for FY 24 and FY 25. This includes **\$6 million** more in Education Aid and **\$7 million** in Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT).

These New Haven organizations will receive funding as part of the Federal ARPA bill we passed, state bonding, or the Community Investment Fund:

Haven's Harvest Food Program • Lighthouse Point Park • East Shore Park Fort Hale Park • Fair Haven Community Health Center • New Reach/Life Haven Shelter • New Haven Youth at Work • Junta For Progressive Action • Floyd Little Athletic Center • New Haven Museum • ARTE, Inc. • New Haven P.A.L. • Friends Center • Pardee Morris House

LEGISLATIVE WINS FOR NEW HAVEN

CIGARETTE DEALER LICENSES

A big victory this year was thanks to a complete New Haven team effort to pass legislation that will better regulate businesses that sell tobacco who have had consistent non-compliance issues. This includes selling to minors and other illegal activities that negatively impact our community. At the public hearing we heard from several members of the New Haven delegation, police department, the mayor, New Haven Alders, city officials and residents. The new law will now require cigarette dealer license applicants to post notices at their businesses and provide their license renewal process. It also allows municipalities to require dealers to notify law enforcement of license renewals and allows police chiefs to provide comment, including on compliance issues.

PROTECTING TAXPAYERS

- In response to complaints from residents about tax bills, I initiated legislation by working with the Planning and Development Committee and representation from the Tax Collector's Association. The new law will require municipal tax collectors to waive interest on delinquent property taxes when the collector and assessor find that the delinquency was attributable to their error and no fault of the taxpayer.
- I worked as a member of the Finance Committee to introduce legislation that will protect seniors and their tax withholdings for IRAs and pension plans to let them keep more of their money up front instead of having estimated taxes withdrawn immediately. This should be beneficial to many of our seniors who are on fixed incomes.



EDUCATION

- Cut certification red tape to make licensing faster, allowing teachers to teach more subjects across more grades
- Created the Early Childhood Care and Education Fund to maximize public and private investments
- Invested in teachers, assistant teachers (paraeducators) in state-funded school readiness programs and childcare programs

SENIORS

- Made it easier for seniors to age in place and increased community-based services
- Created a nursing home database to connect seniors with quality care
- Established oversight to prevent abuse and provided incentives for nursing homes to improve care

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Authorized permanent use of automated enforcement devices to enhance road safety and established vehicle noise limits with fines for violations
- Improved the eligibility process for getting benefits to the families of first responders who died in the line of duty

LEGISLATIVE NEWSBRIEFS

Veterans - Exempted permanently and totally disabled veterans from paying property taxes

Environment - Banned numerous products containing dangerous PFAS chemicals

Health and Wellness - Made access and coverage to telehealth permanent that was scheduled to sunset June 30, 2024

Paid Sick Leave - Passed paid sick leave law to take care of oneself or a family for more employees than just service workers

Higher Education - Expanded employer-based student loan repayment tax credits and reduced rates for state-backed loans for in-demand occupations