



Dear neighbor,

The 2024 legislative session is in the books, and I am proud of what we accomplished.

My goal for the session was to ensure we invested in our priorities while preserving tax cuts for families and seniors.

By passing our fiscal stabilization plan we protected the largest and second largest tax cuts in state history and ensured more retirement income would be tax-exempt. We also filled our priority buckets by increasing funding for higher education, early childhood, mental health, and nonprofits.

This newsletter has more details.

Enjoy,

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
KADEEM ROBERTS

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**CAPITOL
UPDATE 2024**

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**CAPITOL
UPDATE 2024**



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OUR BIPARTISAN BUDGET INCLUDES

PROTECTING TAX CUTS

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

- **LARGEST INCOME TAX CUT** in state history
- **Biggest investment in public education ever**
- **New supports for the IDD community**
- **Expansion of debt free community college**
- **Protected safety net programs**

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

- **Higher Education - \$160 million with a path to grow to \$200 million**
- **Early Childcare - \$21.8 million**
- **Mental Health - \$24 million**
- **Nonprofits - \$50 million**

PROTECTING DEMOCRACY

- Banned foreign nationals from making campaign contributions in CT or spending money on behalf of candidates (SB 253)
- Required video monitoring of ballot drop boxes (PA 24-148)
- Made it a crime to harass election workers (PA 24-148)

MAKING CT SENIORS A PRIORITY

- Expedited Medicaid coverage for home-based care as an alternative to more costly nursing home care (PA 24-39)
- Required home care workers to wear photo-ID badges (PA 24-39)
- Prevented nursing homes from putting more than two patients in a single room (PA 24-141)
- Required health insurance coverage for detecting coronary artery disease (PA 24-19)

IMPROVING HIGHER EDUCATION

- Expanded state-backed student loans to students under 18 (PA 24-64)
- Required CT colleges and universities to disclose to students any reductions in their financial aid when they are awarded a scholarship (PA 24-87)
- Expanded employer-based student loan repayment tax credits and reduced rates for state-backed loans for in-demand occupations (PA 24-52)



SUPPORTING LOCAL SCHOOLS

- Established the Education Mandate Review Advisory Council to review proposed and existing mandates on local boards of education (PA 24-45)
- Required same day parental notification when a child hurts themselves or others (PA 24-93)
- Capped the amount of money all districts pay to send kids out of district – saving millions of dollars for local schools (PA 24-81)
- Required the State Department of Education to provide school districts an estimate of their next year's funding by the end of the current year, to ensure better budgeting (PA 24-81)
- Provided help to classroom paraeducators to pay for their health insurance (PA 24-81)
- Improving Childcare (PAs 24-78 & -91):
 - Increased coordination to raise private funds
 - Piloted new childcare programming
 - Expanded the childcare incubator program

KEEPING OUR COMMUNITIES SAFE

- Improved the eligibility process for getting benefits to the families of first responders who died in the line of duty (PA 24-16)
- Established a Fallen Officer Fund to provide families of police officers who died in the line of duty with cash assistance and health care coverage (PA 24-27)
- Required more thorough testing of firearms in criminal investigations with the use of the federal ballistic database (PA 24-32)
- Protected the personal information of special victims like minors and victims of abuse from public disclosures (PA 24-56)
- Toughened penalties for killing a police dog (PA 24-65)