

SESSION WRAP-UP

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

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, ensuring more retirement income would be tax-exempt. Additionally, we filled our priority buckets by increasing funding for higher education, early childhood, mental health, and nonprofits. This newsletter has more details.

Sincerely,



BIG WINS FOR NEW BRITAIN

- ✓ Secured \$3.6 million increase in education funding
- ✓ Allocated an additional \$250K for non-profits
- ✓ Procured an additional \$4 million in municipal aid to mitigate the New Britain Car Tax
- ✓ Maintained capped car tax, saving New Britain residents \$2.1 million
- ✓ Obtained \$1.7 million to support the expansion of New Britain YMCA child care services

NEW LAWS FOR 2024

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE MANNY SANCHEZ

PROUDLY SERVING NEW BRITAIN

Representative Manny Sanchez
Legislative Office Building, Room 4000
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

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NEW LAWS IN CONNECTICUT 2024



FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE MANNY SANCHEZ

PROUDLY SERVING NEW BRITAIN



- 860-240-8585
- Manny.Sanchez@cga.ct.gov
- housedems.ct.gov/SanchezM
- facebook.com/RepMannySanchez



LABOR LAWS

This session as the chair of the Labor and Public Employees Committee, I led efforts to advance worker-centered labor protection laws:

- Supporting Workers with Paid Sick Days**- Supported middle-class and working families by granting most full and part-time workers access to Paid Sick Days over a three-year period:
- Use for yourself or to care for a loved one
 - At least 40 hours per year
 - Roll over time to the following year

More Care with Paid Family and Medical Leave - Expands access to paid family and medical leave program to employees of Native American Tribal Nations and victims of sexual assault seeking medical care or counseling.

TAKING CARE OF OUR MOST VULNERABLE

- Protected domestic violence victims from being forced into debt by their abuser
- Made it easier to qualify for and receive payouts from, the state's emergency mortgage assistance program
- Excluded medical debt from counting against your credit score
- Strengthened inspections and regulation of youth camps
- Required the Department of Children and Families to hold safety plan visits in-person
- Established new Bureau of Services for Persons who are Deaf, Deafblind, and Hard of Hearing

SUPPORTING LOCAL SCHOOLS

- Provided help to classroom paraeducators to pay for their health insurance
- Established the Education Mandate Review Advisory Council to review proposed and existing mandates on local boards of education
- Expanded state-backed student loans to students under 18
- Invested in nonprofits that assist students with college and financial aid applications

OUR BIPARTISAN BUDGET INCLUDES PROTECTING YOUR TAX CUTS!

WE KEPT INTACT THE STATE BUDGET TO PRESERVE THE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES THAT WE AGREED TO LAST YEAR, INCLUDING:

A STATE BUDGET FOCUSED ON:



THE LARGEST INCOME TAX CUT IN STATE HISTORY

Our budget includes the **largest Personal Income Tax cut in CT history** by cutting marginal income tax rates, increasing the Earned Income Tax Credit, capping mill rates and eliminating even more retirement income taxes.



INVESTMENTS IN PUBLIC EDUCATION

Our budget invests over \$240M in public education by stabilizing our state colleges and universities, expanding debt-free community college, fully funding our schools and local boards of education, and increasing scholarships and student debt relief.



NEW SUPPORT FOR THE IDD COMMUNITY

Our budget invests over \$30M to better serve Intellectually or Developmentally Disabled individuals by addressing agency waiting lists for services, bolstering employment opportunities, increasing Husky C eligibility, and breaking down silos for better coordination and data collection.



INDUSTRY GROWTH

Our budget supports CT's growing industries such as childcare, adult-use cannabis, manufacturing, and media, film, and theater production.



VARIOUS SAFETY NET PROGRAMS

Our budget expands Temporary Family Assistance, increases Husky C. eligibility, provides funds to community action agencies for residents facing immediate economic hardship, supports the 9-8-8 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline and increases Medicaid rate reimbursements for providers and specialists.

MAKING CONNECTICUT SENIORS A PRIORITY

- Expedited Medicaid coverage for home-based care as an alternative to more costly nursing home care
- Created an incentive-based program to improve nursing home care in CT
- Strengthened oversight of negligent nursing homes to their clients before they abruptly close and prohibited any increases in rates without at least 60 day notice



GROWING OUR ECONOMY

- Expanded the small business loan program in lower-income communities and enabled more out-of-state businesses to expand into CT
- Created a fund to improve and manage our small harbors

Growing our Teacher Workforce

- Cut certification red tape to make licensing faster and enable teachers to teach more subjects across more grades
- Expanded eligibility in the fast-track certification program
- Made it easier for industry experts to teach in our tech schools

