



Dear Neighbor,

2025 was a legislative session devoted to our future - our children.

**CT budget: House OKs spending plan investing in children.**

*"Key spending initiatives include more than \$200 million for a new universal pre-K program, a new tax break for low-income families, and tens of millions of additional dollars to aid local school districts and special education programs."*

- Ch 8 News

Our commitment is reflected in our funding for local schools, a top-to-bottom investment in special education, including \$4,854,154 for New Haven and Hamden students over the next 2 years, setting the stage for free pre-K for all, and a \$250 check for parents (based on the EITC framework).

This newsletter has details about these important investments, and more.

All my best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Steve Winter".



STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**STEVE WINTER**

PROUDLY SERVING NEW HAVEN & HAMDEN

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**CAPITOL  
UPDATE 2025**

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**CAPITOL  
UPDATE 2025**

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
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## EQUITABLE APPROACH TO TAXES

- **Established an Enhanced Tax Credit for Families:** For the first time, we've created a refundable tax credit of \$250 per filer through the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) framework – helping working families keep more of what they earned.
- **Supported Childcare Providers:** We created a \$500 refundable tax credit for home daycare owners – recognizing and sustaining the vital care workforce that allows families to work.
- **Made Corporate Taxes Fairer and More Equitable:** We closed a major loophole for big multi-state corporations by ending a tax break that kept them from paying their share of taxes, which gave them a competitive advantage over our local businesses. We removed a rule that limited how much tax big corporate groups had to pay when filing together – now they pay what they actually owe.

## SUPPORTING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

### INVESTING IN CHILDCARE

- We established the Early Childhood Education Endowment - an investable trust fund that will create universal access to childcare starting with a downpayment of nearly \$300 million.

### FREE/REDUCED COST CHILDCARE

- By 2027, families earning up to \$100,000 will be able to receive childcare at no cost, while families earning more than \$100,000 will pay no more than 7% of their income for childcare.

## MAKING OUR COMMUNITIES STRONGER

- Led reform to make it easier for municipalities to enforce housing code violations.
- Reduced red tape for converting vacant commercial property into housing.



## WORKING FOR CT'S WORKERS

- Expanded our landmark Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program to cover non-certified school employees, such as secretaries, nurses, custodians, security officers, and paraeducators.
- Expanded the program formerly known as MyCTsavings by including Personal Care Attendants (PCAs), allowing workers in a notoriously low-paying industry to have access to a state administered retirement plan utilizing Roth IRAs.



Photo credit: New Haven Independent

