

State Senator Beth Bye's Clip & Save

Please utilize my office if you have questions, issues or concerns regarding a state agency or program. Call me at:

1-860-240-0428

Visit my website to reach me via e-mail:

www.SenatorBye.cga.ct.gov

Other Helpful phone number:

- INFOLINE (community services)..... 211
- Dept. of Motor Vehicles..... 1-800-842-8222
- Renters' Rebate Hotline.....860-418-6377
- Consumer Protection
- Fraud Hotline..... 1-800-842-2649
- Health Care Advocate 1-866-466-4446
- "Do Not Call" list 1-888-382-1222
- Careline (to report child abuse or neglect) 1-800-842-2288



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A New Firehouse for Burlington

I worked for more than a year with town leaders and the local volunteer fire department to secure \$1 million in state bonding for a new Lake Garda firehouse. This funding is absolutely critical to Burlington—both for the level of current fire protection services and for the future growth that this town and the region will see. The existing station, built in the early 1960s, doesn't meet current fire protection standards, ADA or life safety codes.

Your State Senator

Beth Bye

Representing Bloomfield, Burlington, Farmington & West Hartford



With Timothy Backus of Har-Conn, a West Hartford metal finishing specialist that was able to grow its business with a state Small Business Express grant and hire new workers under our STEP-Up program.



Legislative Office Building, Room 2700, Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Call me @ **860-240-0428**

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Greater Bicycle & Pedestrian Safety



Ready to ride to Hartford from Blue Back Square on Bike to Work Day.

In an effort to make our roads safer I led passage of a Vulnerable User law to hold dangerous drivers more accountable when they cause injury to pedestrians or cyclists. A growing number of people are choosing to walk and ride their bikes to get around. In recent years, Connecticut has been the scene of several tragedies involving pedestrians, cyclists and officers attached to roadwork crews.

Support for the Arts—Locally

At a time when budgets are tight, it is good to know that there is still a commitment to promote the arts at the state and local levels. Just recently, a half-dozen area artists and arts organizations received state grants, including the Hill-Stead Museum in Farmington, which received \$500,000 in capital funds for repairs and \$75,000 to cover operating expenses. Other recipients include The Avery Ensemble, the Ballet Theatre Company of West Hartford, painter Susan Fishman, artist Carol Padberg and video director Nild Sansone. These grants will help ensure that our region continues to be a vibrant place to live and visit.

Proud to Play a Role

Last fall I began work on the Higher Education Committee with state Representative Roberta Willis and Laura Cordes of Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services to craft a comprehensive campus sexual assault bill that will protect more students, apply to more schools, provide on-call crisis counseling and allow for anonymous reporting by sexual assault victims. I'm proud to say the bill passed this year on a unanimous and bipartisan basis; it's a huge victory for college students and their families



Beth Bye

Committed to Economic Recovery

Since the start of the global economic recession I've made it my mission as your State Senator to help small and mid-size businesses grow, create and retain jobs and put people back to work. As a result of bipartisan legislation, we launched the STEP-Up and Small Business Express programs which have assisted almost 2,000 of Connecticut's small businesses create or preserve more than 17,000 jobs. These initiatives offer job training support for veterans and the unemployed and low-interest loans and grants for small businesses.

Over the past four years we have created more than 65,000 jobs and our unemployment rate recently fell below 7 percent for the first time since 2009. However, our work is not done.

Looking forward, Connecticut's new partnership with United Technologies Corporation will solidify our position as a world leader in aerospace manufacturing. Most importantly, this agreement has a direct impact on the 75,000 jobs at the thousands of aerospace supply chain companies throughout the state, ensuring they are keeping and creating good-paying jobs with good benefits for men and women in nearly every city and town in Connecticut.



Listening to Scott Kluger, co-owner of The Hartford Baking Company on New Park Avenue in West Hartford, talk about the investment he has made with state loans and grants that have created or retained more than a dozen jobs and allowed the company to open a new commissary in Bloomfield.

Jobs for Veterans

I supported a bill that will remove barriers to entry into the civilian workplace for those who learned employable skills while in the service. This legislation will require state licensing authorities to accept military training and experience, where appropriate, as a substitute for other requirements, and will allow veterans to gain streamlined occupational certifications.



Veterans talk to employers at a Heroes for Hire job fair.

Resources to Grow Jobs

- ▶ **Job Expansion Tax Credits** for small businesses: www.decd.org
- ▶ **Small Business Express** to get funding for your small business: tinyurl.com/SmallBizXpress, or contact Michelle Peters at 860-270-8052 or Michelle.Peters@ct.gov
- ▶ **STEP-Up** (Subsidized Training & Employment Programs) provides worker training subsidies for small businesses and small manufacturers: www.stepct.com
- ▶ **Connecticut Reemployment Portal** if you have recently lost a job and are looking for work: www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/CTReP
- ▶ **Job & Career Connection** for details on job and training programs: www.ctjobandcareer.org
- ▶ Learn more about **Job Growth in Connecticut**: www.senatedems.ct.gov/GrowJobs



Talking about issues affecting seniors at the West Hartford Senior Center.

A Rebate for Senior Renters

Being able to stay in their own home is a top priority for many senior citizens; however, this is a challenge for those living on a fixed income. In order to help offset a portion of their rent and utility expenses, we've re-opened the Elderly Renters' Rebate Program. Eligible persons may apply between April 1 and October 1. Questions about the program and payments should be directed to the **Renters' Rebate Hotline** at 860-418-6377.

A Stronger Do Not Call List

Shady telemarketers are increasingly ignoring our "Do Not Call Registry" resulting in unwanted and intrusive telemarketing calls and text messages. As technology evolves it is easier to get around the law and employ high-pressure sales tactics. That's why we passed a law this year to help Connecticut crack down on violators by increasing penalties and eliminating unsolicited text messages.

A Smart Start for Our Kids

Recognizing there is no better way to set students on the path to lifelong learning success than a high quality pre-kindergarten experience, we created the Connecticut Smart Start program to provide 50,000 more children access to vital early education in our public schools. Combined with additional slots for private providers, our comprehensive pre-K package will reduce the achievement gap and ensure that all children are ready to learn when they arrive at kindergarten. Every dollar invested in pre-K saves \$7 in avoided special and remedial education and criminal justice costs.



During a visit to a pre-K classroom at the Charter Oak International Academy in West Hartford—one of only four schools in West Hartford that offer full-day pre-K.