Dear Neighbor,

Jobs. Keeping jobs and creating more and better jobs. That is the most important issue facing our state today.

That is why I and the Senate Democrats are focusing our energies in this short session on Connecticut Jobs for the 21st Century. Over the past few months we have been hosting forums and meeting with all facets of the business, agricultural, technology and other sectors of our economy to craft an economic development plan for Connecticut's future.

That plan has four main components which we believe will lead to better fiscal health for all of Connecticut's residents. Included in this mailer is a brief overview of our plan. If you would like more detailed information, it is available on my Web site. If I can be of any assistance to you, please feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Biagio "Billy" Ciotto

Biagio "Billy" Ciotto
State Senator

State Senator

Biagio "Billy" Ciotto

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State Senator Biagio "Billy" Ciotto

Connecticut Jobs for the 21st Century

Broadening Prosperity for Connecticut Citizens

With innovation and imagination, state government is taking bold steps to help residents achieve and succeed in the 21st Century. Our plan involves comprehensive initiatives, including offering incentives to companies that provide wellness programs, expanding access to wireless Internet service, providing an earned income tax credit to low-income working families, encouraging investment in small and micro-businesses as well as promoting agricultural research and innovation.

Making Connecticut Competitive in Retaining and Creating Jobs

State government will be both a partner and a catalyst for employment opportunities and improving the overall business climate. A centerpiece of our plan is to phase-out property taxes on manufacturing equipment to help businesses become more competitive and efficient. Additionally, we will streamline state agencies involved in economic development and in important sectors like banking and insurance. We will also adopt initiatives to encourage a greater collaboration between business and state universities to keep our best-trained residents in state.

Unlocking the Gridlock: A Transportation Policy for All of Connecticut

Now is the time to fully and forcefully attack the transportation problems that threaten the economic future of Connecticut with initiatives that reach all four corners of the state. Our plan places renewed emphasis on mass transit proposals, including commuter lines from New Haven to Hartford and Springfield, improved connections to Bradley International Airport, and the establishment of transportation hubs that integrate rail and bus options. Additionally, we will increase incentives to move freight by rail and better utilize deep-water ports.

Working Toward Energy Independence

State government will do all it can to encourage emerging technologies and the use of renewable energy. Our plan includes initiatives that create innovative loan programs to help businesses and local governments finance energy efficient and renewable energy systems. We will also work to provide a "Green Building" tax credit to businesses for energy-efficient facilities. We will promote cleaner transportation solutions by encouraging fuel cell buses and alternative-fuel vehicles.