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From **Your** State Senator  
**Joe Crisco**

*Representing the communities of Ansonia,  
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# YOUR STATE SENATOR **JOE CRISCO**

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**Washington, DC may be mired in partisan gridlock, but in Connecticut we're working together to address the state's most pressing issues.**

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## **Taking Meaningful Action After Newtown**



In the wake of the Newtown tragedy, we've formed a bipartisan task force to craft legislation aiming to reduce gun violence and better protect our children.

I'm grateful to have been appointed to the task force's subgroup focusing on mental health. As a longtime advocate for parity between mental and conventional health care, I look forward to discussions related to improving access to treatment, and I'm confident our group will offer substantive recommendations to assist mental health patients and their families.

For more information, please visit [www.cga.ct.gov/ASaferConnecticut](http://www.cga.ct.gov/ASaferConnecticut).

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## **Continuing Leadership on the Insurance Committee**

I'm pleased to inform you that I have been re-appointed co-chairman of the legislature's Insurance Committee. Among the issues my committee will address this session is assistance for patients and families afflicted by **Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorder Associated with Streptococcal Infections (PANDAS)**, which seems to be caused by strep or other infections, when antibodies made to fight the infection mistakenly attack the portion of the brain that controls thought and muscle function.