

State Senator
Joseph Crisco's
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Please utilize my office if you have questions, issues or concerns regarding a state agency or program. Call me at:

1-800-842-1420

Visit my website to reach me via e-mail:

www.SenatorCrisco.ct.gov

Other Helpful phone number:

- INFOLINE (community services)..... 211
- Dept. of Motor Vehicles..... 1-800-842-8222
- Renter's 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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Learning Firsthand From a Hamden Firefighter

Listening carefully to Jeff Pechmann, a lieutenant in the Hamden Fire Department, I participated in Fire Ops 101. The event consisted of "hands-on" activities designed to provide an understanding of the everyday life of professional, career firefighters.

Your State Senator

Joseph Crisco

Representing Ansonia, Beacon Falls, Bethany, Derby, Hamden, Naugatuck & Woodbridge



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Call me @ **860-240-0189** or **1-800-842-1420**

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An Accessible Playground for Woodbridge

I took part in a groundbreaking ceremony this month at Pease Place, the new Woodbridge Community Playground. Pease Place will be the first playground in town to accommodate children with physical, sensory or developmental disabilities. The playground will feature play structures for toddlers and older children, inclusive swings, accessible pathways and surfacing, and activity panels enabling children of all abilities to play together. I was thrilled to secure state funding for Pease Place and am happy it will help foster developmental learning in a welcoming, outdoor environment.



Investing In Cutting-Edge Research

GlyGenix Therapeutics in Woodbridge is a pioneering company focused on developing cures for metabolic disorders caused by genetic mutations. Thanks to an investment from Connecticut Innovations, a leading supporter of Connecticut's innovative companies, GlyGenix will continue development of its lead drug candidate. Creative and strategic assistance like this in bioscience, information technology, financial technology and medical devices will help grow jobs in Connecticut and make our state a destination for research and development.

Supporting Local Arts

I helped several local organizations secure support through the Connecticut Arts Endowment Fund to sustain their contributions to our communities. The Fund was established to stimulate the development of private sector funding for the arts and to help stabilize arts institutions. Funding went to Dandelion Productions in Bethany, The Eli Whitney Museum and Young Audiences of Connecticut in Hamden, and Shakesperience Productions in Naugatuck. Thriving local arts are a hallmark of flourishing communities and we are lucky to have access to such outstanding local offerings.



Recognizing public and private high school students from Hamden at the Hamden Arts Commission's 2014 Salute to Young Artists.

Joseph Crisco

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 last 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.



Talking with New England Brewing CEO Bill Pasternak and brewer/owner Rob Leonard after a tour of their old facility in Woodbridge. The brewery received funding from the Small Business Express program to help them expand in the neighborhood.

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 with constituents at my annual Senior Fair in Ansonia.

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 Renter's Rebate Hotline at 860-418-6377.

Electric Choice Bill of Rights

Competition within the electric market has resulted in increased high-pressure sales tactics and misleading information from third-party electric suppliers. These companies use unfair marketing practices and sales gimmicks to attract unsuspecting customers. That's why we passed a "Bill of Rights" for electric ratepayers that will require more transparency in billing, set marketing standards and prohibit coercive or deceptive sales practices.

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.

