

Breast Cancer Awareness Action Day

As a leader in making Connecticut a global trailblazer in breast cancer early detection and treatment, I joined breast health advocates from the Northeast to celebrate the Third Annual Breast Cancer Awareness and Action Day in Hartford.

The purpose of the event was to raise awareness of the significant health risks associated with breast tissue density, and to recognize Connecticut for its leadership on this critical issue.

As Senate Chair of the Insurance Committee, I led passage of important legislation to help ensure women's breast health by requiring insurance companies to cover an ultrasound or an MRI for women with dense breast tissue, which can obscure cancerous tumors in an otherwise standard mammogram.



Breast health advocate Dr. Nancy M. Cappello cohosted the Third Annual Breast Cancer Awareness and Action Day in Hartford.



From Your State Senator
Joe Crisco

Representing the communities of Ansonia, Beacon Falls, Bethany, Derby, Hamden, Naugatuck & Woodbridge

Legislative Office Building, Room 2800
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Phone: 860-240-0189 **Toll-free:** 1-800-842-1420
www.SenatorCrisco.cga.ct.gov

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HARTFORD CT
PERMIT NO. 3937



From Your State Senator **JOE CRISCO**

Legislative Update
for Bethany



Addressing Mental Health Issues

I was honored to **receive the 2015 Legislative Leadership Award by the Keep the Promise Coalition**, a mental health advocacy group. The award recognizes my successful efforts as Chairman of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee to expand insurance coverage of services for persons with mental or nervous conditions. Certain policies now must include: general inpatient and outpatient hospital services; psychiatric inpatient hospitalization and outpatient hospital services; intensive outpatient services; and partial hospitalization.

Tax Cut for Retired Veterans

As part of the state budget, the legislature approved a tax cut for military veterans which **provides a 100 percent exemption from the state income tax for federally taxable military retirement pay**. State law used to provide for only a 50 percent exemption to retired members of the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, and Army and Air National Guard.

Women Veterans' Program

The legislature unanimously approved, and the governor signed into law, the creation of the Connecticut Women Veterans' Program, within the state Department of Veterans' Affairs. The program will reach out to women veterans to **improve their awareness of federal and state veterans' benefits and services**. The legislation also calls for an assessment of women veterans' needs for benefits and services, as well as a review of programs and initiatives currently available to women veterans in our state.