

# State Senator Mae Flexer Innovation & Entrepreneurship to Grow Jobs

This legislative session, I worked with my Democratic colleagues to **harness Eastern Connecticut's considerable economic strengths**—a highly educated and productive workforce, top-tier universities and strong existing businesses—and **create an ecosystem supportive of Connecticut startup companies.**

## Cultivating Private Investors & Supporting Startups

- **Leverage private venture capital** to provide funding for early-stage companies and startups.

## Leveraging Our Colleges, Universities & Vo-Tech Schools

- Coordinate existing resources at Connecticut's public and private colleges, and establishes new funding to **provide services in support of entrepreneurs.**
- **Expand programs at Connecticut vo-tech schools** to offer night and post-grad programs.

## Fiscally Responsible

- **100 percent of the funding for these initiatives is redirected from existing resources,** so we are not adding to our expenses.



In April, I brought together the Eastern Connecticut manufacturing community, local universities and high schools, and regional chambers of commerce to focus on fostering connections and building partnerships to further strengthen our economy.

## Innovation Places

- Establish funding for **“Innovation Places”** to foster the growth of innovators and entrepreneurs by leveraging the presence of key anchor institutions like universities, hospitals and major businesses.

## Focusing the State as a Partner

- Establish a private-sector panel to lead a new entity charged with **developing the state's entrepreneurship community.**

# Innovation & Entrepreneurship to GROW JOBS



This legislative session, I worked with my Democratic colleagues **to create an ecosystem supportive of Eastern Connecticut startup businesses** of all kinds.



FROM YOUR STATE SENATOR

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