

STATE SENATOR ED GOMES  
**FIGHTING FOR**  
**OUR COMMUNITY**

**Representing the communities of Bridgeport & Stratford**

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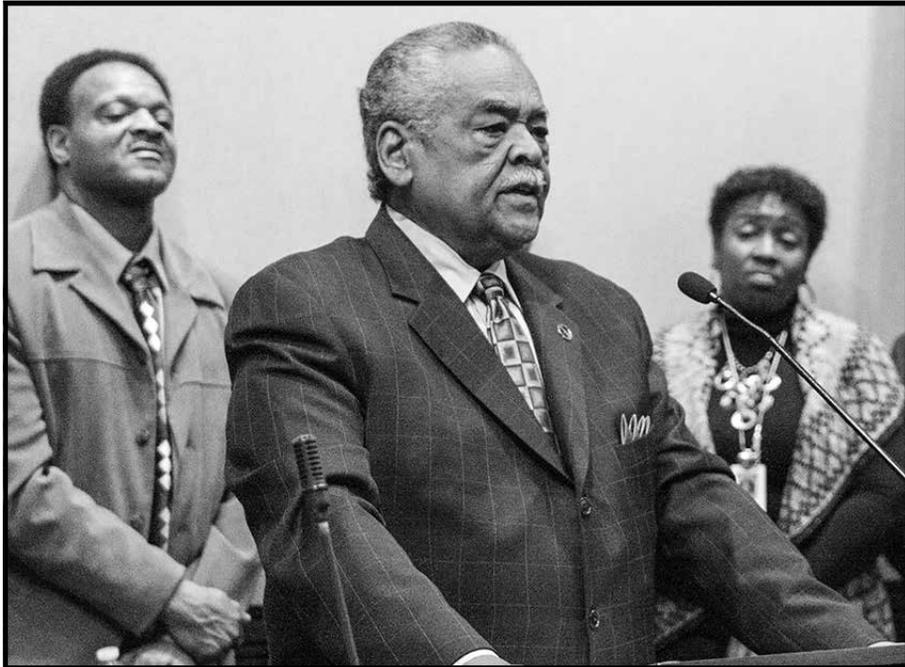
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# FIGHTING FOR OUR COMMUNITY



This year, I helped lead the effort to change how our criminal justice system works in Connecticut for both juveniles and adults by passing laws that:

- **Create “ban the box” policies** to remove the criminal history question from job applications;
- **Prevent the court system from locking up youth before trial** unless they committed a new crime or are a risk to public safety;
  - This reform is expected to **cut the number of incarcerated juveniles in half**;
- **Provide programs for pre-trial youth** such as substance abuse treatment and anger management;
- **Cut the time between appearances before a judge** for pretrial juveniles from 15 to 7 days; and,
- Increase funding for **legal services for the poor**