



With D.O.T. Commissioner James Redeker at the River Bend rail crossing.

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

YOUR STATE  
SENATOR **Carlo Leone**

Legislative Office Building, Room 3500, Hartford, CT 06106-1591

**Phone:** 860-240-0589 **Toll-free:** 1-800-842-1420

Visit my website & sign up for my e-newsletter

**[www.SenatorLeone.ct.gov](http://www.SenatorLeone.ct.gov)** (Use this website to e-mail me)

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

# Senator Carlo Leone: LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



## River Bend Rail Crossing Safety Improvements Completed

Safety improvements—including the installation of vehicular traffic gates and warning lights—have been completed at a private railroad crossing in the Springdale neighborhood of Stamford where there have

been several accidents in recent years involving vehicles striking trains.

The safety improvements include the installation of new flashing lights and gates to block vehicular traffic when a train is going through. Previously, the crossing had flashing warning lights and bells, but no gates.

Stamford residents identified the need for improvements in this area and I am happy that we were able to get this project approved.

The safety enhancement project began April 9 and the crossing was reopened on May 6.



## The Problem of Powdered Alcohol

In 2014, the U.S. Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) approved labels for a product called Palcohol—a powder that can be added to water to make an alcoholic beverage. I have serious concerns about powdered alcohol, especially the effect it could have on underage drinking.

I recently led the Senate in bipartisan, unanimous approval of legislation that will ban the purchase, possession and sale of powdered alcohol. This bill aims to protect the public and is a good step toward keeping this substance out of the hands of those who might abuse it, especially our children.



## Microbeads

Legislation before the General Assembly would ban the import or sale of products containing microbeads. Some cosmetics products such as toothpaste and facial scrubs utilize microbeads for color or other effects. These small plastic components measure five millimeters or less and frequently find their way into waterways around Connecticut.

Aquatic life often mistakes the microbeads for food and consumes them, leading to death or other health impacts. These plastics can absorb other pollutants as well which accumulate in the fatty tissues of the fish who consume them. They can then be passed up the food chain to larger fish, wildlife, and ultimately humans.