



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

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

YOUR STATE  
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# Senator Carlo Leone: LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



## River Bend Rail Crossing Safety Improvements Completed

Safety improvements have been completed at a private railroad crossing in the Springdale neighborhood of Stamford where there have been several accidents in recent years involving trains striking vehicles.

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 led the Senate this session in bipartisan, unanimous approval of legislation that will ban the purchase, possession and sale of powdered alcohol. This law will protect the public and is a good step toward keeping this substance out of the hands of those who might abuse it.



## Protecting School Children

On October 2nd, 2014, the principal and assistant principal of Stamford High School were charged with failing to report a sexual relationship between a teacher and student. These administrators had knowledge of the relationship dating back to at least December of 2013. By not reporting this to the Department of Children and Families (DCF), the administrators violated the law and endangered students.

I secured Senate passage of legislation that will help prevent crimes like this from happening in the future. This legislation will increase the penalty from a misdemeanor to a felony for a mandated reporter who fails to report suspected child abuse or neglect to DCF. It also requires schools to have rapid response teams to ensure prompt reporting and school employees to undergo child abuse and neglect training.