State Senator

Tony Guglielmo

Ashford ★ Chaplin ★ Coventry ★ Eastford ★ Ellington Hampton ★ Pomfret ★ Stafford ★ Tolland ★ Union Vernon ★ Willington ★ Woodstock



Dear Neighbor,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your State Senator. It is a great honor to represent the communities of the 35th District as your voice in Hartford.

During the 2014 legislative session, the General Assembly passed bills that enhance access to mental healthcare in rural communities, reform our family court system, help people on fixed income, and protect private landowners from unwanted tree trimming by utility companies.

While these new laws are good news, we must do more to improve the quality of life in Connecticut. We must eliminate wasteful government spending, cut taxes, and end corporate handouts.

In these pages, please find information about some new state laws, and our continuing effort to make Connecticut a better place to live, work, and raise a family.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me, toll free, at (800) 842-1421 or by email Tony. Guglielmo@cga.ct.gov

Tony Guglielmo State Senator



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State Senator

Guglielmo



2014 LEGISLATIVE REPORT



Ashford ★ Chaplin ★ Coventry ★ Eastford ★ Ellington ★ Hampton ★ Pomfret ★ Stafford Tolland ★ Union ★ Vernon ★ Willington ★ Woodstock

2014 LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Improving Access to Mental Health Care

Connecticut is making strides towards improving our mental health support system. I supported a new state law that streamlines regulations so more mental health and substance abuse treatment facilities can open in small communities. This law will particularly benefit rural districts like ours where only a few large counseling centers and mental health clinics exist. (Public Act 14-211, Effective October 1, 2014)



Helping Seniors Stay in Their Homes

Many seniors depend on long term care insurance to remain in their homes. Unfortunately, people can be blindsided by sudden premium increases. These unexpected hikes really hurt people on fixed incomes. To help people stay better informed and pick the right policies, I supported a law that requires insurance companies to provide a clear outline of how and when premium rates might increase before they sell a policy. This will help people stay informed about what they are buying and budget accordingly. (Public Act 14-8, Effective January 1, 2015)

Keeping Children Safe

I supported a new law that expands the mandated reporter list to protect children who are being abused. All town and private youth coaches and public and private school coaches, administrators, and staff will be required to contact appropriate officials if they suspect a child may be the victim of abuse or neglect. Sadly, since reports of abuse are on the rise, this is a necessary measure to keep children safe. (Public Act 14-186, Effective October 1, 2014)

Another new law requires the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) to notify a municipality's chief executive officer when a registered sex offender is released into or moves into that town. This same new law also requires DESPP to alert Connecticut superintendents when a sex offender notifies DESPP of an address change.

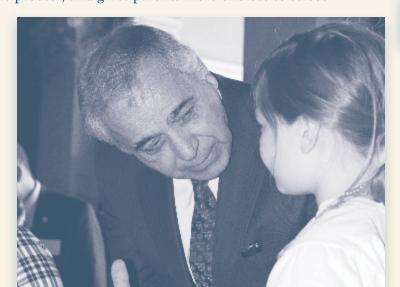
Previously, the law only required DESPP to notify school superintendents when a sex offender was released into towns in their school districts, but not when the registrants moved. This was a troubling loophole which is now closed. (Public Act 14-213, Effective July 1, 2014)

Improving the Family Court System to Protect Our Children

The legislature took a hard look at the way our courts handle custody disputes in order to protect the welfare of children. New legislation clarifies the role of Guardians Ad Litem (GALs) and Counsels for Minor Children (CMCs), helps to reduce the cost of the process, and gives parents more choices to select

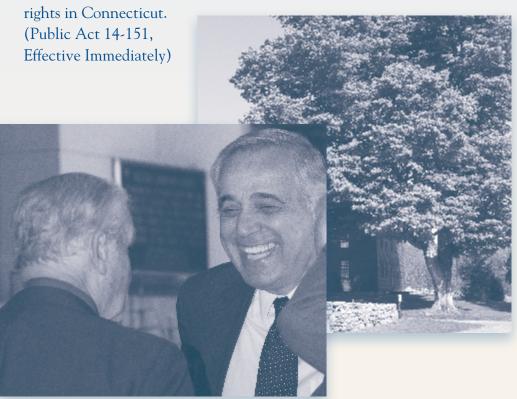
or remove GALs or CMCs. Children's well-being must come first. (Public Act 14-3, All Parts Effective by October 1, 2014)

Meeting a young inventor at the capitol



Protecting Property Owners

My priority is to protect people's right to maintain their property. I pushed for a new statute that requires utility companies to get written permission from landowners before trimming their trees and bushes. This law places the burden of proof on the utility company if a landowner appeals an action. This legislation strengthens landowner



Budget Update

This session, the legislature passed a budget adjustment, which allows the state to make slight changes to the biennial budget that passed last year. After a lengthy debate and a party line vote, the legislature allocated over \$20.2 billion for fiscal year 2015 (July 1, 2014–June 31, 2015). I voted against the budget adjustment because state spending has gone from irresponsible to debilitating. This year, Connecticut will pay \$2.3 billion just in interest on borrowed money. The state has gotten to a point where it can no longer afford vital programs and services because so much money will be spent servicing debt or on pet projects like the Hartford to New Britain busway.