



Dear Friends and Neighbors:

*This year, when I prepared my Annual Report to the district, space limitations forced me to cut some of the information I would like to share with you. In this edition of “**Capitol News**,” I would like to bring you up-to-date on some other laws and initiatives that are new for Connecticut.*

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for all of your E-mail, letters and phone calls expressing your views and concerns about state issues. Sharing your views and insights helps me to be your voice in Hartford.

If I can be of assistance to you on an issue, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

*Kim Fawcett
State Representative*

Kim Fawcett - Representing Fairfield • Westport



**Kim Fawcett
State Representative
133rd District**

Contact me for your copy of:
2007 Senior Laws
2007 Education Laws
2007 Veterans Laws
2007 Laws Affecting Business

Legislative Office Building, Room 4048
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

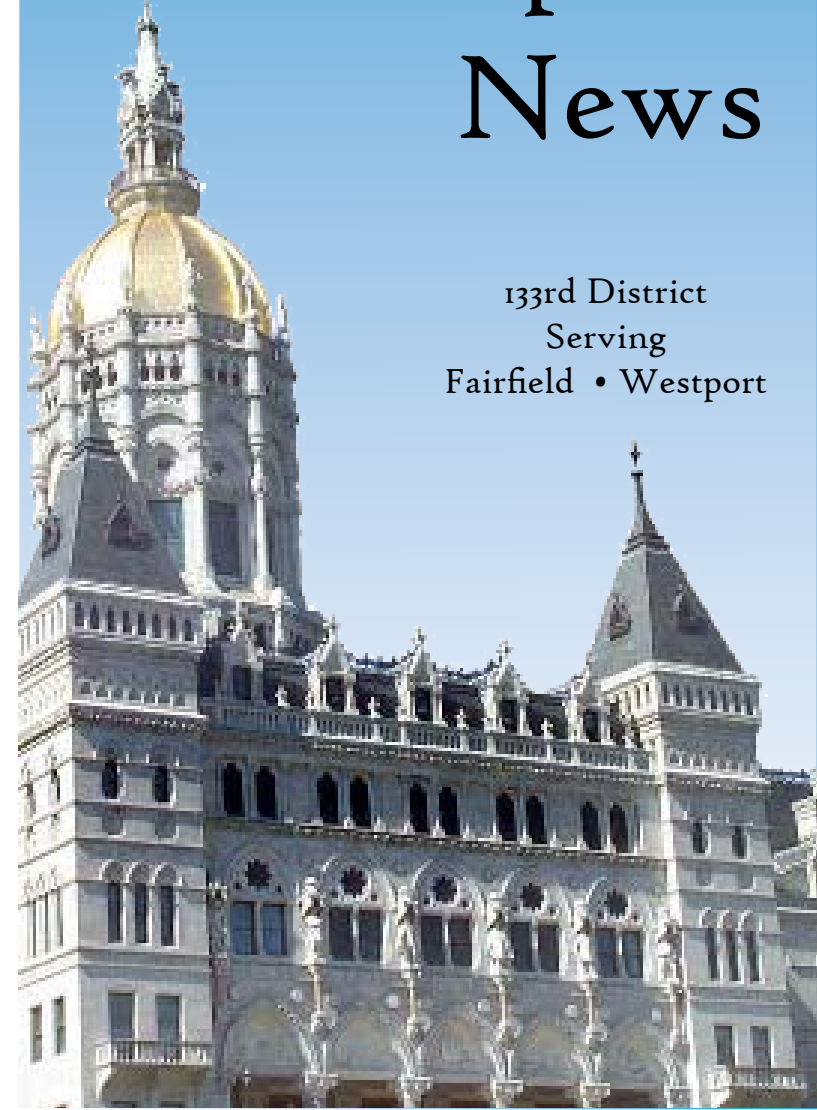
At the Capitol: 1-800-842-8267 (toll free)
In the District: (203) 258-8922
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State Representative
Kim Fawcett

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Know the Law

Illegal Use of Handicapped Spaces

Significant increases in the fines for illegal use of handicapped parking spaces are now in effect. First time offenders will be fined \$150, and subsequent violations will cost \$250.



Misuse of 9-1-1 Emergency System

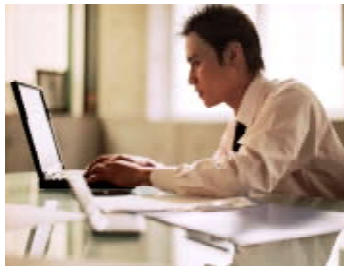
Calling in a false alarm to the 9-1-1 system is a serious issue, and we made it a crime with serious consequences. While emergency personnel are responding to false alarms, serious emergencies could experience a delayed response. Reporting false information via 9-1-1 is a Class B misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000, imprisonment for up to six months, or both.



Updating Megan's Law

Now, sex offenders who are required to register with the Department of Public Safety must include E-mail and instant message addresses, as well as other Internet communication identifiers, in their registration information. Social-networking sites, such as *MySpace*, make children vulnerable as potential victims for child predators, and this new law proved to be an immediate success in identifying sex offenders who had profiles on *MySpace* in violation of their parole.

While *MySpace* continues to identify and delete the files of convicted sex offenders found on their site, the Attorney General and other members of a 50-state task force continue their efforts to seek stronger steps to protect our children.



I would like to hear from you 1-800-842-8267 at the Capitol (203) 258-8922 in the District

Honoring Our Troops

Disruption of Funerals

Grieving families should not be subjected to protests at a funeral or memorial service for their loved ones. When war protests were staged at a number of military funerals earlier this year, the legislature took decisive action to ban the practice. Now, anyone who willfully makes noise or a disturbance, or blocks an entrance or exit at a funeral, will be charged with a Class A misdemeanor. The restrictions apply 60 minutes before or after a funeral.



Gold Star Family License Plates

A new Gold Star Family license plate can now be issued to family members of any Connecticut service member killed in action while performing active military duty with the armed forces, including the Connecticut National Guard. Eligible family members include a spouse, mother, father, sister, brother, child, grandmother or grandfather.



An Affordable Future

Special Education Cost Sharing Formula Adjustments

Municipalities all over the state will be pleased to know that Connecticut is finally taking steps to shift special education costs away from municipal budgets. This small but important first step will help relieve some of the pressure municipal budgets are experiencing from state mandates. In 2008, the state will cover 100% of the excess cost (anything over four-and-a-half times a municipalities average cost per pupil) to educate their special needs population.



Online Renewal for Motor Vehicle Registrations

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has a new Internet renewal program for auto registrations, and it is already a popular option for Connecticut residents.

Online registration is a convenience to motor vehicle owners who have passenger registrations without any delinquent property taxes or parking tickets. Owners must have state-registered insurance coverage and emissions tests for their vehicles. Suspended registrations cannot be renewed online.

Online renewal is simple and easy to use:

- Customers review an initial screen informing them about how the system works and what kinds of registrations qualify for online renewal.
- The next screen asks for a personal identification number (PIN), which is provided in the mailed registration renewal form, and other information.
- The third screen asks the customer to review the vehicle and fee information.
- The fourth screen asks for confirmation that the customer wants to execute the renewal.
- The fifth screen seeks credit card, name and address information for billing.
- The sixth screen asks the customer to review the credit card information and execute payment.
- The seventh screen gives the customer a receipt and again notes that the transaction becomes final after DMV reviews the vehicle's records to ensure the registration can occur and processes the payment.

CAUTION: To allow time for DMV to process and mail your new registration certificate and expiration sticker by the expiration date, customers should complete their online renewal shortly after receiving their renewal notice.