

The Connecticut General Assembly



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Representative Cook Recognized by AARP

TORRINGTON — **State Representative Michelle Cook, D-Torrington**, has been named as one of AARP’s 2018 AARP Legislative Achievement Award for her leadership and dedication to protecting consumers’ access from unaffordable and unreliable telecommunications services.

AARP will recognize her during an awards ceremony on Tuesday, April 2 at the Sullivan Senior Center, 88 E. Albert St., Torrington at 11:30 a.m.

“I am thankful to have been selected for this recognition. We need to protect consumers and serve them, not the financial interests of corporations. Individuals who still use landline telephones should have access to that line, and shouldn’t have to bear a higher cost because they don’t want to rely on a cell phone, especially if they live in an area that has poor reception,” said **Rep. Cook**. “Every resident is entitled to an affordable network that is reliable during emergencies, no matter what.”

“AARP thanks Representative Cook for her leadership in ensuring that land line phone service for rural and lower income residents of Connecticut is protected in a time of technology transformation and transition. Not until we know that affordable and reliable broad band access is within reach for everyone can we afford to make significant changes to our current telecommunications systems,” said AARP Connecticut State Director Nora Duncan.

During the 2018 legislative session, **Rep. Cook** worked to oppose [landline telephone deregulation](#) in order to protect ratepayers from unreasonable rate hikes and low-quality basic phone service.

AARP is a nonpartisan organization with a member base of approximately 600,000 adults who are 50 years and older. Its mission is to create comfortable communities for people of all ages as they work, age, and retire through public policy development, advocacy and providing critical health and financial services for its members.

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