

## House Republican Press Release

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Press Office: 860-240-8700

### Rep. Stripp Supports House Republican Proposals for the 2007 Legislative Session



#### *Following the Republican Guiding Principles for Legislation*

HARTFORD – State Rep. John Stripp hailed the proposed House Republican Caucus initiatives along with our guiding principle of “Is this legislation good for the citizens of Connecticut.” The focus is on **quality of life issues, the economy, the environment and health care.**

Some of the initiatives being put forward for debate will be:

- **First Time Home Buyers Fund:** The state income taxes for recent college graduates who remain in Connecticut would be placed in an investment account and participants would have 10 years to use that money for a first-time home purchase.
- **Seniors’ pensions** would be exempt from state income taxes and senior volunteers would get a property tax break. Connecticut has the onerous distinction of being one of four states who give no relief to retirees and their pensions.
- The \$250 **minimum business entity tax** would be eliminated. To encourage business startups and new job creation. This is a nuisance tax which hurts the smallest of businesses and everyone knows small businesses are the engines of job creation.
- **Health care:** create portable plans for individuals who don’t purchase plans through an employer and flexible alternatives for businesses and insurance companies that are free of mandates for younger adults aged 19 to 26. Provide additional funding for long-term care facilities and expand health care access by committing more money to community health centers.

State Rep. John Stripp said, “Republicans promote legislation that is good for Connecticut. Connecticut is overtaxed and we are losing some of our best and brightest citizens. I believe these proposals will help keep them from leaving our state.”

“These bold initiatives represent common sense ways to address the immediate concerns of all the people of Connecticut. Solutions need to be above partisan party politics and accomplish goals that are in everyone’s best interests. That’s our job,” said Rep. Stripp.