

## House Republican Press Release

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Press Office: 860-240-8700

### **REP. STRIPP: SUPPORTS ALTERNATIVE ‘NO-TAX’ REPUBLICAN BUDGET**



#### **“HOUSE UNITED FOR TAX-FRIENDLY PLAN”**

HARTFORD – State Representative John Stripp, R-135<sup>th</sup> District, today announced support for a House Republican alternative budget proposal that would also begin to provide direct tax relief to residents of Connecticut and also encourages retirees to stay and retire here.

Rep. Stripp said, “The positive vision in this proposed state budget would encourage individuals and businesses to stay in our state there by, strengthening our economy for the benefit of all of our citizens.”

House Republicans have proposed a budget alternative that does not raise taxes and maintains current levels of spending. Easton would receive over \$400,000, Weston over \$500,000, Redding \$400,000 in additional school aid. These boosts would occur under the “No-Tax-Increase Republican Budget Alternative” with no increase in the state income tax. Aid would still be based on town size, need and wealth, but with more educational accountability in the schools systems.

The Republican budget proposal also would begin to reduce other taxes, including the state income tax on senior citizen pension benefits. Further, the Republican plan would boost other state payments to towns for road aid, and payment in lieu of taxation for tax exempt property.

Details of the plan include getting rid of the business entity tax, and electricity sales tax on businesses. Additionally, the proposal eliminates the so-called “cliff” for estates’ reaching \$2 million and begins to phase out the estate tax completely.

In stark contrast to the Democratic plan that would boost spending a whopping \$1.7 billion, the Republican plan would spare taxpayers any more pain. But Republicans noted that their plan increases spending in many areas:

- School spending for every town goes up;
- Medicaid reimbursements for Hospitals is increased \$100 million to expand health care access for thousands;
- Environmental clean up programs will also get an additional \$100 million.

For more information on the plan, click on: <http://www.HouseGOP.ct.gov>