

# STATE SENATOR CARLO LEONE

## Cultivating Innovation & Entrepreneurship to Grow Jobs

This legislative session I am working with my Democratic and Republican colleagues on a comprehensive bill to **harness Fairfield County's considerable economic strengths**—a highly educated and productive workforce, top-tier universities and existing businesses—and **create an ecosystem supportive of Connecticut startup companies.**



### Focusing the State as a Partner

- Establishes a private-sector panel of repeat entrepreneurs and business experts to lead ImpaCT, a new entity charged with **fostering startups and developing the state's entrepreneurship community.**

### Innovation Districts

- Establishes **an open competition to designate "Innovation Districts"**: dense neighborhoods where innovators and entrepreneurs will work, live and play in close proximity.
- **Leverages the presence of key anchor institutions** like universities, hospitals and major businesses to support neighborhood entrepreneurs.
- The Brookings Institute has documented the success achieved through innovation districts in places like Boston, Pittsburg, Barcelona and Spain.

### Cultivating Private Investors & Supporting Startups

- **Leverages private venture capital** to establish competitive funds for early stage companies, and extends the successful **Angel Investor Tax Credit** program.
- **Supports business accelerators** providing space, support, access to equipment and other resources to startup businesses with growth potential.

### Engaging Our Colleges & Universities

- Coordinates existing resources at Connecticut's public and private colleges, and establishes new resources to **provide services in support of entrepreneurs.**

### Fiscally Responsible

- The new initiative is fiscally responsible with **100% of the funding redirected from existing resources, so we are not adding to our expenses.**

# Cultivating Innovation & Entrepreneurship to GROW JOBS



FROM YOUR STATE SENATOR  
**Carlo Leone**

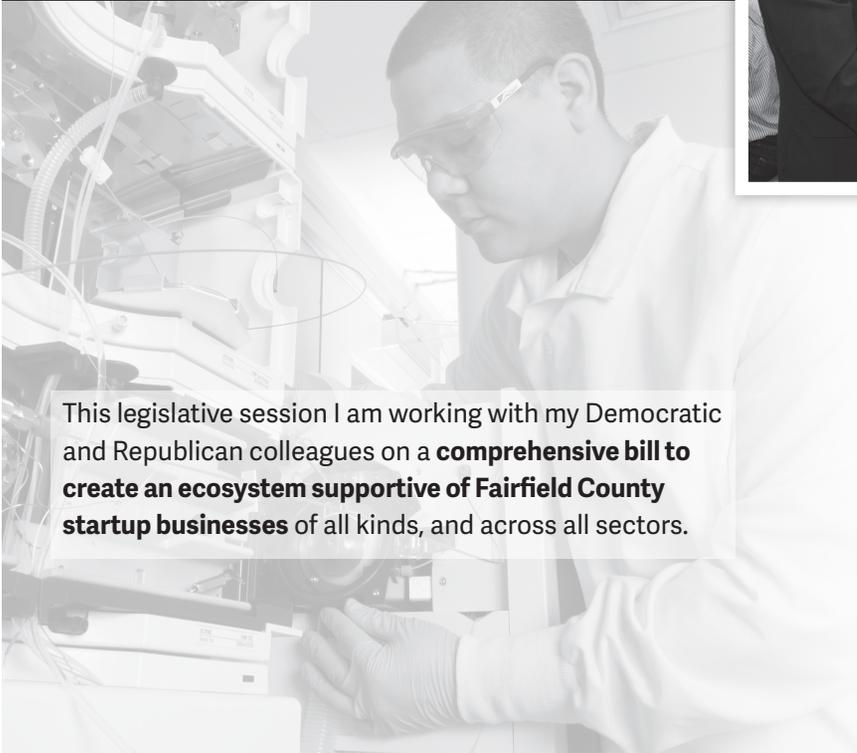
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This legislative session I am working with my Democratic and Republican colleagues on a **comprehensive bill to create an ecosystem supportive of Fairfield County startup businesses** of all kinds, and across all sectors.

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