

## Fostering Innovation in Our Community

Innovation is crucial to Connecticut's economic competitiveness. With established companies like See-Click-Fix, Grey Wall Software and so many others, New Haven is emerging as a center for innovation. That's why I have worked to secure funding to cleanup and build a technology incubator at the former Connecticut Transit bus depot at 470 James Street. Helping new companies grow and expand locally will create jobs that benefit our region's economy.



## Tougher Penalties for Hit & Run Drivers

Across the country, as people choose to ride their bikes, walk or use public transportation to get around, it is important that our roads are safe for all users. As part of a continuing effort to improve safety, I successfully fought for a new law that imposes tougher financial penalties and prison time for hit-and-run drivers who leave the scene of an accident.



STATE SENATE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

# MARTIN LOONEY

## AN ADVOCATE FOR US

Representing  
New Haven  
Hamden  
North Haven



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## An Advocate for Us

## HELPING OUR FIREFIGHTERS

Our firefighters put their lives at risk for us, and far too many of them develop cancer in the line of duty. That's why I stood with local first responders to successfully push for legislation to create the firefighters cancer relief account and the firefighters cancer relief program to help these firefighters. Paid and volunteer firefighters who have been diagnosed with cancer from the dangerous work they do are eligible for benefits through these funds. At the same time I ensured that this new protection is funded through this new account and will not impact local town budgets. It is our duty as a society to provide these benefits to these brave men and women.

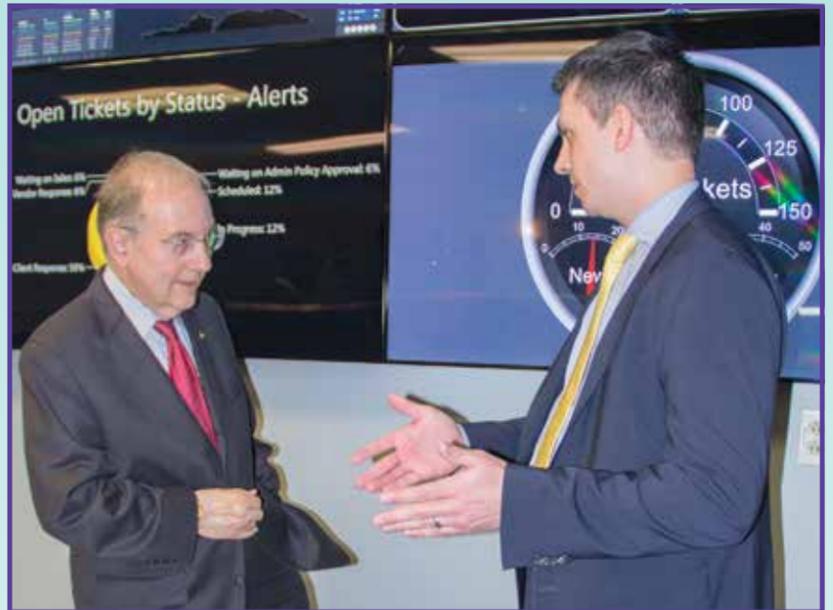


# Martin Looney

## Creating Jobs for the New Innovation Economy

This year I championed a law to focus on the new innovation economy so that we are building jobs for the next generation. From the Industrial Revolution to the modern jet engine and the financial industry, our state has been at the forefront of the nation's economy. But as the business world changes we must once again reinvent our economy to continue to lead. This new law uses our economic strengths—a highly educated and productive workforce, top-tier universities and existing businesses—to capture future job growth at startups and expansion-ready companies.

- ▶ Develops and attracts entrepreneurs who create new startups and jobs and helps grow successful startups into large firms
- ▶ Establishes 'Innovation Places'—dense, local networks of innovators and entrepreneurs—where new businesses can grow faster together
- ▶ Connects colleges and universities with the private sector to convert research into new businesses
- ▶ Attracts more private funding to support growing companies



## Protecting Critical Services



Despite a budget deficit, I worked to consolidate state government in a smart way in order to protect core services. We protected state funding for seniors and people with disabilities, continued a strong level of local and higher education funding, and maintained a commitment of investment in our hospitals. We also dedicated state funding to every town in the state to hold down property taxes, including creation of a new tiered structure for Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) reimbursements that takes into account the overall level of tax-exempt property in a community.

Town	State Funding Increase	Total State Funding This Year
New Haven	\$7.9 million (3.5%)	\$227.7 million
Hamden	\$1.3 million (3.8%)	\$35.3 million
North Haven	\$720,000 (10%)	\$7.1 million

## Supporting Veteran-Owned Small Businesses

As policymakers, we must improve the lives of our veterans and ensure they earn a good living and contribute to our economy. Under a new law that I fought for this year, veteran-owned small businesses will now receive additional preferences that will make it easier for veterans to start and grow businesses. This new policy is a continuation of my multi-year focus on improving the lives of our veterans and supporting them in every way possible.



***"The Chamber is grateful to Senate leadership for its support of this initiative, which is vital to our more than 40,000 veteran-owned businesses"***

Andrew S. DiSilvestro Jr., Executive VP  
CT Veterans Chamber of Commerce

## Cutting New Haven's & Hamden's Car Taxes



The most frequent concern that families, seniors and small-business owners express to me is about property and car taxes. I am helping lead the charge to provide New Haven, Hamden and other municipalities with the resources needed to limit these crippling taxes. As we move forward, the state will dedicate a portion of its sales tax revenue to cities and towns to help alleviate pressure on the property tax. Car taxes will also now be capped at 37 mills, which means a savings of 11 percent on a New Haven resident's car tax bill given New Haven's current mill rate of 41.55, and a savings of 18.4 percent for Hamden residents, where the current mill rate is 45.36.

## A Financially Secure Retirement

Everyone deserves a financially secure retirement, yet far too many Connecticut residents are approaching retirement without adequate savings. Connecticut residents whose employers do not offer retirement plans are moderate-income workers who are most in need of income beyond Social Security.



This year, I led passage of a law that creates a program in which employees would make voluntary contributions which will be deposited into a professionally managed retirement fund. Eligible workers will be provided the chance to enroll in a retirement savings program. Employers would not bear any financial responsibility and would not be required to pay administrative fees. The program is designed to be self-sustaining and low-risk so that retirees can have peace of mind and enjoy their golden years.