

# YOUR STATE SENATOR **Andrew Maynard**



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## STAY IN TOUCH

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### Manufacturing Still Strong in Connecticut

Listening to Jack Shea of Electric Boat talk about the business of building submarines during Manufacturing & Technology Day at the State Capitol. EB continues to be a major contributor to our state and local economies.



## Charles W. Morgan to Sail Again



This summer, we celebrated the re-launch of the Charles W. Morgan, the last remaining wooden whaling ship in the world. With the completion of a comprehensive restoration at Mystic Seaport, she will embark next spring on a tour of historic New England ports, and ultimately resume her status as an exhibit and educational resource at the Seaport. As a boy growing up in Noank, the Seaport transported us back in time to an age of adventure. This restoration makes me feel like a kid again, and what was once imagination has become reality.

## Connecting Seniors with Services

There are many great opportunities, programs and services available for seniors living in southeastern Connecticut, but often they are not aware of them; that's why I recently held a senior fair to connect folks with local service providers and agencies intended to benefit senior citizens. Highlights from this year's events included information on medical, dental, behavioral health and social service programs, counseling about federal and state veterans' benefits, and information on energy assistance, weatherization and home energy supports.



## Military Votes Must Count

When we learned that in 2010 nearly 40 percent of the absentee ballots sent to the military serving overseas were not returned, we passed legislation that will open the door to allowing them to return their ballots via e-mail or fax. The 18th District is defined by its military character, by its high concentration of members of the military, and the presence of the Submarine Base and the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. This law will help ensure that those defending us have their most essential voting rights protected.

# Update from Andrew Maynard

## ***Committed to Economic Recovery***

At the beginning of the global economic recession, Connecticut economists predicted a very slow recovery. At the State Capitol, we took action. During the last three legislative sessions and the 2011 October Special Session on Jobs, we passed historic, bipartisan, job-creating bills.

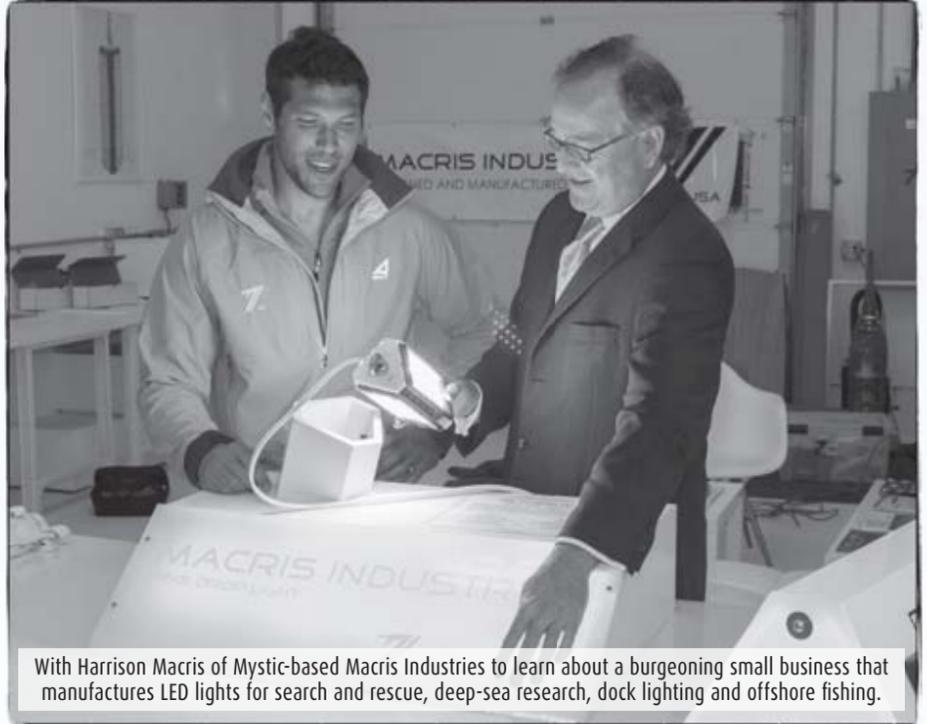
We launched and then expanded programs to help thousands of small- and medium-size businesses. For example, the **STEP-Up** and **Small Business Express** programs—which so far have assisted nearly 850 firms to create or preserve almost 12,000 jobs—offer job-training support for veterans and the unemployed and low-interest loans and state grants for small businesses.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, we have created more than 41,000 private-sector jobs since 2011. But our work is not done.

## **Resources to Grow Jobs**

- ▶ **Job Expansion Tax Credits** for small businesses: [www.decd.org](http://www.decd.org)
- ▶ **Small Business Express** to get funding for your small business: [tinyurl.com/SmallBizXpress](http://tinyurl.com/SmallBizXpress), or contact Michelle Peters at 860-270-8052 or [Michelle.Peters@ct.gov](mailto:Michelle.Peters@ct.gov).
- ▶ **STEP-Up** (Subsidized Training & Employment Programs) provides worker training subsidies for small businesses and small manufacturers: [www.stepct.com](http://www.stepct.com)
- ▶ **Connecticut Reemployment Portal** if you have recently lost a job and are looking for work: [www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/CTReP](http://www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/CTReP)
- ▶ **Job & Career ConneCTion** for details on job and training programs: [www.ctjobandcareer.org](http://www.ctjobandcareer.org)

To learn more about job growth in Connecticut, visit: [www.senatedems.ct.gov/GrowJobs](http://www.senatedems.ct.gov/GrowJobs)



With Harrison Macris of Mystic-based Macris Industries to learn about a burgeoning small business that manufactures LED lights for search and rescue, deep-sea research, dock lighting and offshore fishing.



With Geoffrey Foote of Orion Manufacturing, a company specializing in custom millwork and furnishings, that was able to purchase equipment and hire workers thanks to Small Business Express.

## ***Support for Local Businesses***

Locally, many businesses in the communities I represent are utilizing important programs like STEP-Up and Small Business Express to preserve and create jobs.

**Griswold:** Coleman Drilling & Blasting • **Groton:** Orion Manufacturing, Southern New England Fisheries News, Luther Fence, ArcaNatura, Morin Associates • **Mystic:** Advanced Improvements, Rhodes Collar  
**North Stonington:** Uplands Construction Group  
**Pawcatuck:** A.B. Powell Woodworks, Connecticut Community Credit Union, Anthem Sports • **Plainfield:** Brooklyn General Repair, Amtec, BST Systems  
**Preston:** Captain Grant's 1754, Maple Lane Farm  
**Sterling:** Angler Industries • **Stonington:** Don's Dock

## **Children's Mental Health**

Following the Newtown tragedy, Democrats and Republicans came together to improve Connecticut's mental health-care system, with a particular focus on the well-being of children.

The new law implements a strong, comprehensive, integrated system of care. It identifies strategies for reducing the long-term negative impact of mental, emotional and behavioral health issues on children. It promotes early identification and intervention, and ensures access to developmentally appropriate services to help treat children earlier. It also created a Children's Mental Health Task Force to study the effects of nutrition, genetics and medication on our youngsters.



## **Stamping Out Price Gouging**



In light of recent severe hurricanes and historic snowstorms that have battered Connecticut, members of the public have been vulnerable to price gouging by shady service providers for snow removal, flood abatement, roof raking and lodging. That is why we expanded consumer protections by prohibiting price gouging for services that are essential for the health, safety and welfare of consumers in the aftermath of severe storms. This will be a deterrent to exploitative business owners and will protect consumers from predatory practices.

For more information about how to report price gougers, contact the **Department of Consumer Protection** at 860-713-6300 or visit [www.ct.gov/dcp](http://www.ct.gov/dcp).