

Greg Smith 2010



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"The political system is broken in Connecticut and as a result our state is failing on jobs, education, and taxes while growing a massive debt burden for our children.

We must stop the inefficient and wasteful state government that has given Connecticut both the highest per capita debt and the status of the most taxed state per capita in our country.

Connecticut needs new ideas and new legislators willing to listen to the people.

The Budget Deal

The \$19 Billion dollar state budget deal adopted last week was put together using an unsound scheme to defer \$100 million dollars in payments to the state employee pension plan and to borrow \$989 million more dollars adding to our state debt.

With our economy in dire straits, our State Legislature and our Governor

have both taken a pass on making any necessary financial reforms. Instead, they took out a huge new loan in the taxpayer's name. No down payment plus no interest for 12 months is a TV commercial pitch, not a sound state budget deal.

We need to reform our state finances and cut the size of government.

Greg Announces His Candidacy

I'm Greg Smith and I'd like to serve you in the Connecticut General Assembly as your 118th District State Representative.

I have always been up front with you, so let me admit this now: I'm running for selfish reasons. I love Milford and our State. I grew up here. I am a product of our public schools, including Simon Lake Grammar School and Jonathan Law High School. I lived right here on Laurel Avenue.

We have all seen the growing mess in a Washington/Hartford-based government that is far too distant from people in communities like Milford. Like Washington, our State legislature is dominated by a single party that is beholden to lobbyists, government union bosses, and special interest groups instead of the people who elected them and the workers who

made our state great. We cannot grow state government and our economy at the same time. It is not the red-tape wielding, tax-raising, fee-imposing government bureaucrat, who will be the solution to our current crisis.

As your state representative, I will work to help private industry and individuals succeed in Connecticut. I will work to reduce taxes and government red tape so that people and jobs can stay and be created in Connecticut. I will support legislation to make Connecticut a leader in green high-technology jobs and to lessen our dependence on foreign energy. I will listen to the experts on education, our environment, issues facing seniors, issues facing our veterans, and other areas where we must do better.

With your help we can be part of a solution that returns decision making

back to the people and money back to your pockets. We will remind the politicians in Hartford that Connecticut Government should work for its citizens and that you want change; not just change you can believe in, but change you can see in your children's quality of education, your employment opportunities, your property values, your environment, and the way our seniors and veterans are respected in our state.

We need to make sure that our next State Representative has the skills, ability, drive and determination to see to it that we receive fair representation in Hartford. We need someone who can be part of a force for change in the way our legislature does the business of the people. With your support in November, I will be that person.

**Greg Smith, Candidate,
118th CT State Representative**

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My Philosophy

Rooted in the traditional American principles of individual liberty and limited government, my philosophy combines an appreciation for entrepreneurship, lower taxes, and small government with strict respect for civil liberties, concern for our environment, less able citizens, and our children's education.

The Issues

Jobs and the Economy

As your State Representative, I will support policies to promote economic growth and job creation. We need to make Connecticut the first state we think of for new high-technology green jobs that provide employment and reduce our dependence on foreign energy. I will fight for our free enterprise system and support small businesses that create jobs and are the foundation of our economy.

Taxes and Spending

Connecticut has the highest per capita debt of any state in our nation. Our deficit is out of control and is threatening to bankrupt us. Each day brings new talk of higher taxes out of Hartford. I will oppose reckless spending plans and higher taxes that cripple economic recovery, and support pro-growth policies. We need to grow the economy, not government.

Education

The state Education Cost Sharing (ECS) system in Hartford is fundamentally flawed. Our children and taxpayers are paying a huge price as Hartford experiments with more and more unfunded mandates dictated to our local communities. We must return to making the study of reading, writing, math, science, and history the core of our public education system, while we ensure that every child in every community in our state has an opportunity to access a quality education.

Environment

We must ensure we have safe/clean water and preserve wonders of nature and open spaces for future generations. Our state has already made good progress thanks to many ordinary citizens and some members of the current legislature. I'll work to continue and expand efforts aimed at protecting Long Island Sound, the Housatonic River, and other areas vital to Connecticut's wildlife and natural beauty.

Veterans

I am honored to have served in the United States Navy and Connecticut Army National Guard, many times in difficult and dangerous missions abroad to protect our people and our interests. America owes no apologies for protecting our citizens and supporting freedom and democracy around the world. As a veteran of several international conflicts and operations, I will work tirelessly in the Connecticut General Assembly to ensure our veterans receive all the benefits they have earned.

Healthcare

I believe every American should have access to affordable health care, but putting politicians and government bureaucrats between patients and doctors will only make things worse. We need reforms that increase your choices, improve quality and expand access for all our citizens.