

# The Connecticut Campaign to Fight Poverty and Build Economic Security

## Our Mission:

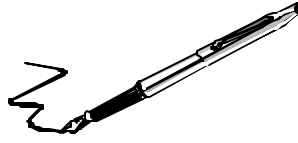
The Connecticut Campaign to Fight Poverty and Build Economic Security is committed to public action, advocacy and education to promote a better quality of life for all Connecticut residents. The Campaign strives to ensure that Connecticut's policies and practices leave behind no person, regardless of good or bad economic times. The Campaign works toward the goal of creating one prosperous Connecticut, undivided by damaging economic disparities among its residents, municipalities and regions.

## Help Get The Message Out:

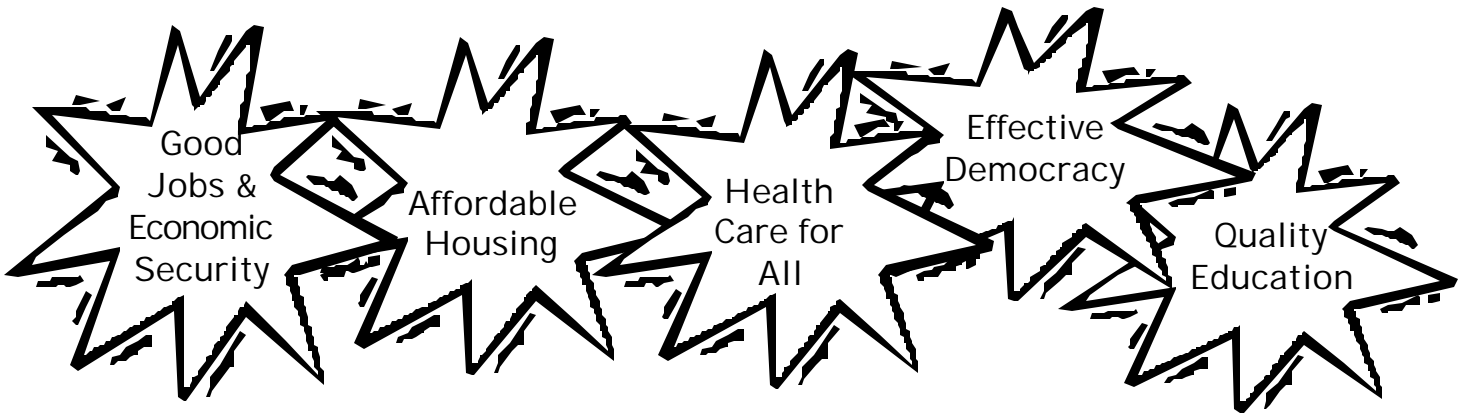
At this point in the session, legislators are starting to make final budget decisions and hard choices. We need to make sure they are completely clear about these important areas for public investment. To help with this effort, we've designed the check below as a graphic way of getting the attention of the legislators. We will gather these checks from around the state and deliver them to the appropriate legislators.

## On the check below, please:

- Sign your name
- Print your name and address
- Send the check to LARCC, 80 Jefferson St., Hartford, CT 06106 by **MAY 18<sup>th</sup>**.



## The Campaign's Priority Areas for Public Investment:



*State of Connecticut -*

How should we spend our \$601 million budget surplus?

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Pay to the order of Affordable Housing, Quality Education, Health Care for All, Good Jobs and Economic Security, Effective Democracy \$ 601,000,000

Six Hundred & One Million  $\frac{00}{XX}$  \_\_\_\_\_ Dollars



Connecticut Campaign to  
Fight Poverty and Build  
Economic Security

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Memo ***Invest in our future now!***

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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# The Connecticut General Assembly can invest in our future NOW:

## ***Low-Income Working Families***

**Support S.B. 1338, An Act Creating an Earned Income Credit Against the Personal Income Tax.** Provide a refundable tax credit to working families to help lift them out of poverty.

## ***Affordable Housing***

**Support H.B. 5388, An Act Creating the Connecticut Housing Partnership Fund.** Appropriate \$50 million from the state surplus to establish an efficient source of flexible financing to expand the inventory of affordable housing and to promote housing choice, economic integration and community development through affordable housing.

## ***Quality Education***

**Support S.B. 370, An Act Concerning the Foundation Component of the Cap in the Education Cost Sharing Formula.** Fully fund the Educational Cost Sharing Grants to cities and towns and increase the per pupil cost.

## ***Health Care for All***

**Dedicate the Tobacco Settlement Funds to Programs which decrease the tobacco use and increase access to health care, particularly by making the HUSKY program available to people with incomes up to 300% of the poverty level.** Decrease tobacco use among children and adults and provide funding for increased access to health care, particularly for the uninsured.

## ***Economic Security***

**Oppose Cuts in Cash Assistance or Medical Services to Recipients of Temporary Family Assistance or SAGA.**

Oppose funding cuts and new rules that further limit the time periods for receipt of cash assistance, create more sanctions or reduce medical services to Connecticut's poorest families and adults.

## ***Good Jobs***

**Support S.B. 1035, An Act Concerning Standards for State Economic Development Assistance.** Create standards for state economic development assistance that promote good jobs with decent wages and benefits.

## ***Effective Democracy***

**Support H.B. 5042, An Act Restoring Voting Rights of Convicted Felons Who Are On Probation.** Restore voting rights of individuals who have been convicted of a felony and are on probation in order to re-integrate people into our democracy and make sure that more voices are heard.

**Please write in your name and address on the other side of this check and return to LARCC by MAY 18th.**

### **EITC**

The EITC is a refundable tax credit that helps low-income working families make ends meet. The federal government uses it, as do 15 states. Cost: \$20.8 million.

### **Good Jobs**

Companies that get public aid should pay decent wages, pay part-timers fairly, comply with state and federal laws, and add, not cut jobs. Cost: negligible!

### **Affordable Housing**

Our state needs a new flexible and efficient source of financing for affordable housing development and rehabilitation. Cost: \$50 million

### **Quality Education**

Fully fund Educational Cost Sharing Grants to cities and towns and increase the rate per pupil Cost: \$475 million.

### **Effective Democracy**

Restore Voting Rights — The 36,000 people in the state who were convicted of felonies and are still on probation should be allowed to vote. Cost: negligible!

### **Health Care for All**

The HUSKY childrens' health insurance plan should be expanded to cover parents of children in the program. Cost: approximately 13 million

### **Economic Security**

Maintain cash and medical benefits for Connecticut's poorest residents. Do not change the TFA or SAGA programs to limit benefits or needed medical care. Cost: None, do not make unnecessary cuts to these programs!

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