JUDITH BLEI GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Connecticut's great resource – the Connecticut General Assembly website (www.CGA.ct.gov)

. You can find almost everything you need to be a confident advocate at the Capitol. It's easy to navigate and below you will find a tour.

On the **front page of the website**, you will find links to:

- ➤ The Bulletin Capitol and Legislative Office Building report, updated each day, of all the important activities and information effecting the session: Committee Meetings, Public Hearing Dates, Committee Forums and Presentations, Notes of Interest, Schedule of Events and Committee Assignments.
 - Schedule of hearings are published here all public hearings and the specific bills to be heard must be published in the Bulletin 5 days before the date of the hearing, which includes the day of publication and the day of the hearing.
- ➤ List of scheduled events Daily to weekly schedule of events at the Capitol and the Legislative Office Building (LOB) for the day, week to month as they are known. Events include committee meetings and hearings, legislative events, and other meetings. (These will also be in the Bulletin.)
- Find your Legislator easily find your elected representatives by inputting your address.
 - Searchable by District or Last Name
 - Senate Members List
 - Senate Democrats 1-800-842-1420 or 1-860-240-8600
 - Senate Republicans 1 800-842-1421 or 1-860-240-8800
 - House of Representatives List
 - o House Democrats 1-800-842-8267 or 860-240-8500
 - o House Republicans 1-800-842-8270 or 860-240-8700
- ➤ **Bills** at the very bottom of the page is a place to enter a bill number which will take you to the page of the bill and includes the history of the proposed legislation through its passage of a Public Act (if it gets that far). Added bonus: Track your bills through the website so you'll always know what's going on with them. Registration required.

Other pages of interest: (see ribbon on top of front page on the website)

- ➤ **Joint Rules** this is the legislation that creates the rules for the legislative session, including rules for committees, notice dates for meetings and hearings and just about everything needed to create a well-run session.
- Committees (scroll up on the top ribbon)
 - Lists of Committee Leadership (two Senate Chairs and Vice-Chairs and one House Chair and Vice-Chair).
 - Links to the committees that have contact information and historical information available.
 - o Testimony from Public Hearings is available on line as well.
- ➤ Citizen's Guide act and sound like a lobbyist! Get to know the lingo and the rules. Most of what you may need can be found here. How to testify at a hearing and how a bill becomes law are all found here.