

Stamford's Two State Senators

Why It Matters

The 2 State Senators who represent Stamford (and parts of Darien, Greenwich and New Canaan) have the power to both introduce and vote on bills about many important issues. For example, in 2020 a bill passed and was signed into law that increased accountability among Connecticut's utility companies. Another example caps co-pays for insulin and diabetes medications at \$25 in Connecticut. The senate, together with the house, also has primary responsibility for drawing both congressional (US House) and state legislative (CT Senate and House) district lines. This has a significant impact on election outcomes and representation. State Senators also have a voice in decisions to change the state constitution, they vote on whether to confirm or reject who the governor appoints for state executive departments, state cabinet, commissions and boards. Together with our House representatives, they also vote on the composition of the Connecticut Supreme Court. The Senate plays an important role in our system of checks and balances across the three branches of government, Legislative (House and Senate), Executive (Governor) and Judiciary (Courts). Connecticut's current 2 US Senators were once State Senators.

March 2, 2021 Special Election for District #27 State Senator

Carlo Leone, who represented this district, recently resigned to become the senior adviser to the Connecticut Department of Transportation commissioner. [Click here to find out if this is your State Senate District](#)

Next Regular Election for State Senators

State Senators in Connecticut serve two-year terms. They were last elected to office in November 2020 and will next be up for election in November 2022.

NOTE: Connecticut has a part-time state legislature. In odd-numbered years (when the state budget is completed), Senators are in regular session for five months (January to June). In even-numbered years, for three months (February to May). However, many committees routinely meet off-season, and senators are also likely to participate on various other state panels, in study groups and at workshops.

More on What It Is

- There are a total of 36 State Senators, each representing a district with roughly 100,000 residents.
- Together with the 151 House Representatives, they make up the Connecticut General Assembly (CGA)
- Most of the work is done by committees whose members have special knowledge of the subject, for example in public health, banking, judiciary, or environment.
- As part of their deliberation process, the committees hold public hearings.
- The CGA as a whole typically relies on its committees to report out only those bills deserving the entire body's consideration.
- In a final step, a bill is passed to the governor, who may sign it, and if so that completes its enactment into law. The process is different if an amendment to the state constitution is required. Then the final step is either a statewide referendum or a popular vote.

Sources

ctpost.com; ctmirror.com; Ballotpedia.org; Wikipedia.org; ct.gov/SOTS; cga.ct.gov; courses.lumenlearning.com