



As summer begins, so too does the new State budget passed by our General Assembly. Regrettably, the budget that takes effect on July 1st relies on borrowing from future receipts and increasing taxes -- *not* common sense spending cuts -- to plug the gaping holes in the State's gluttonous finances. These devices have resulted in Connecticut's bond rating being downgraded by all three of the nation's top rating agencies; a tragic and stunning development.

On our present track, Connecticut will run deficits of more than \$3 billion in 2012 and 2013, thus making higher taxes and increased dependency on "high-income" earners (such as the taxpayers of the 135th) a virtual certainty. These reckless policies discourage our most productive residents, and have ranked Connecticut as one of the five worst States for business development.

We need new leadership in Hartford, true Republican leadership. I, along with a host of new and energetic Republican candidates, will practice what we preach -- i.e., reduce taxes and the size of government, and promote private sector solutions over needless government entitlement programs.

As most of you know, the Democrats have nominated a gentleman to run against me for the 135th State Representative seat this November. While the proverbial "wind" may be at our backs this election, November is a long way off and all Republicans have some work to do.

To that end, I need to raise funds to pay for upcoming campaign expenses -- mailers, shirts, signs etc. -- and am doing so in a manner to qualify for the public funding that Connecticut provides to all candidates (including my opponent). This requires that we raise \$5,000 via donations of \$5 to \$100 from at least 150 citizens of Weston, Easton and Redding, and that all contributors fill out the contribution form available on my website and attached to this message. Once I (or my opponent) hit these marks, the State funds the campaign with a sizable stipend in an effort to level the playing field for all candidates. Please take time to contribute as soon as possible so I can focus on increasing Republican seats in the General Assembly, and not chasing funds as summer turns into fall.

More importantly, we are stepping up the name recognition part of the campaign. Throughout the summer I will be attending public and private events to make sure that the voters know who I am and what I stand for. Your assistance on this front is both crucial and appreciated.

Regards,
John Shaban