

The Connecticut General Assembly



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Contact: Todd Murphy
860-240-8519

Rep. Guerrera looks south to build CT's economy

Trade opportunities abound in Caribbean

State Representative **Tony Guerrera** (D-Rocky Hill, Newington, Wethersfield) welcomed Jamaica's Ambassador to the United States, Ralph Thomas, to Connecticut to discuss transportation and economic issues. Rep. Guerrera and Ambassador Thomas were hosted by Connecticut Airport Authority Executive Director Kevin Dillon at the Authority's offices in Bradley International Airport.

Among the items discussed: possible direct flights from Bradley International Airport to Jamaica with connecting flights to other Caribbean islands.

"Given Greater-Hartford's large Jamaican-American and Caribbean-American populations, a direct flight between Bradley and Jamaica would increase travel and economic opportunities," Rep. Guerrera said.

In addition to flights, Rep. Guerrera would like to see the Connecticut Port Authority pursue opportunities to increase cargo ship traffic with Caribbean states.

"We should pursue every opportunity to expand Connecticut's presence in the import/export market," Rep. Guerrera said. "When we created the Connecticut Port Authority this past year, this was exactly the type of opportunity we were forecasting. Connecticut's ports and airports are keys to economic growth."

Rep. Guerrera noted meeting was an important introduction and conversations will continue.

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