

TAX JUSTICE



No tax policy change should exacerbate the income gap, especially the racial/ethnic and gender wealth gaps.

About 140,000 workers in Connecticut would benefit from expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to include childless workers.¹

Richard Blumenthal voted for an appropriations bill that made permanent the 2009 expansions to the EITC and the Child Tax Credit.² He has called on Congress to "take common sense steps to rein in our deficits, like closing tax loopholes that allow large corporations to avoid paying their fair share."³

Dan Carter actively works against tax increases.⁴ During the budget process in the state legislature he said, "I believe we could grow our economy and still protect our most vulnerable people in our state if we would just be more responsible with our spending and stop using our businesses and hospitals as ATM machines!"⁵

¹<http://apps.cbpp.org/3-5-14tax/?state=CT>
²http://www.senate.gov/legislative/LIS/roll_call_lists/roll_call_vote_cfm.cfm?congress=114&session=1&vote=00339
³<https://www.blumenthal.senate.gov/issues/economy-and-jobs>
⁴<http://cthousegop.com/about-dan-carter/>
⁵<http://cthousegop.com/2015/07/bolinsky-carter-and-sredzinski-slam-state-tax-hikes/>

LIVING WAGES



National legislation should move from adjusting a minimum wage to creating a living wage.

The minimum wage in Connecticut is \$9.60 and was increased on January 1, 2016.¹

Richard Blumenthal cosponsored the Fair Minimum Wage Act in 2014 that would raise the minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour.² When the Senate failed to advance the bill, he said, "I will continue to fight for a fair shot all Americans deserve – increasing pay for working families in poverty."³

Dan Carter voted against raising the minimum wage twice in the Connecticut House of Representatives.⁴ In 2013, he said he would potentially support a raise in the future, but "raising it now will add fuel to the fire for our state's chronic unemployment and underemployment."⁵

¹<http://www.epi.org/minimum-wage-tracker/>
² <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/460/cosponsors>
³<https://www.blumenthal.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release-blumenthal-statement-on-senate-failure-to-advance-minimum-wage-bill>
⁴<https://votesmart.org/candidate/126636/dan-carter#.V2hTRkrK70>
⁵<http://www.thereddingpilot.com/2013/06/10/towns-legislators-vote-against-minimum-wage-increase/>

FAMILY-FRIENDLY WORKPLACES



The needs of women and families should be integrated into federal workplace policies.

Almost 51% of working parents in Connecticut are not eligible to take unpaid, job protected leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act.¹

Richard Blumenthal said, "I believe the federal government should promote and foster an educated, engaged, and empowered workforce."² He is a cosponsor of the FAMILY Act, which would allow all workers to receive a portion of their pay while taking time to care for themselves or a family member.³

Dan Carter said, "We need to focus more attention on [women and family] issues because they will strengthen families in Connecticut and make our households more productive and successful."⁴ He voted against a mandate on some private employers to offer paid sick days in the Connecticut House of Representatives.⁵

¹<http://www.diversitydatakids.org/data/map>
²<https://www.blumenthal.senate.gov/issues/workforce-and-labor>
³<https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/786>
⁴<http://cthousegop.com/2015/03/supporting-women-families/>
⁵<http://ctmirror.org/2016/04/04/gops-dan-carter-announces-for-u-s-senate-nomination/>

CONNECTICUT SENATE CANDIDATES ON MENDING THE GAPS



RICHARD BLUMENTHAL



DAN CARTER

Mending the Access Gap DEMOCRACY



No individual or community of color should be disenfranchised by federal policy.

Connecticut citizens in jail and on parole are prohibited from voting.¹

Richard Blumenthal cosponsored the Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2015.² He said, "The Supreme Court's decision to invalidate this key part of the Voting Rights Act is an example of judicial overreach at its worst. [It] rolls back hard-fought civil rights protections, undoes nearly 50 years of accepted law, and imperils progress as Americans...face new barriers to voting."³

Dan Carter voted against several bills in the Connecticut House of Representatives which would have increased access to democracy, including early and absentee voting and same-day registration.⁴

¹<http://sentencingproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Felony-Disenfranchisement-Primer.pdf>

²https://www.blumenthal.senate.gov/legislation?PageNum_rs=20
³<https://www.blumenthal.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/blumenthal-statement-on-supreme-courts-decision-to-invalidate-key-part-of-voting-rights-act>

⁴<https://votesmart.org/candidate/126636/dan-carter#V2hTRfrK70>

Mending the Access Gap HEALTHCARE



Racial and economic disparities in healthcare should be eliminated.

Since Connecticut enacted the Medicaid expansion provision of the Affordable Care Act, 80,000 more low-income residents have health insurance.¹

Richard Blumenthal is committed to "ensuring access to quality, affordable healthcare for all of Connecticut's residents" and says that "lowering the cost of healthcare delivery and increasing access to preventative services are key to reining in the spiraling costs of healthcare." He voted against repeal of the Affordable Care Act.²

Dan Carter fought against hospital funding cuts and reduced Medicaid payments to hospitals in the Connecticut House of Representatives, saying he will "continue advocating for the safety and wellbeing of our hospitals and healthcare industries."³

¹<http://familiesusa.org/product/50-state-look-medicaid-expansion>
²<https://www.blumenthal.senate.gov/issues/health-care>
³<http://cthousegop.com/2015/10/rep-dan-carter-recognized-by-the-hartford-county-medical-association/>

Mending the Access Gap CITIZENSHIP



Immigrants should be welcomed into the country.

Undocumented immigrants in Connecticut already pay \$136 million in state and local taxes and, if comprehensive immigration reform is passed, they will pay \$22 million more.¹

Richard Blumenthal voted in support of comprehensive immigration reform in 2013.² Before the recent Supreme Court ruling, he said, "I believe the President's actions are within his authority...They will bolster the American economy, create jobs at home, end the exploitation of powerless undocumented workers, and make us all safer by allowing millions of immigrants out of the shadows."³

Dan Carter voted against authorizing driver's licenses for undocumented immigrants and against immigrant access to postsecondary education in the Connecticut House of Representatives.⁴

¹<http://www.itep.org/immigration/#map>
²http://www.senate.gov/legislative/LIS/roll_calls/lists/roll_call_vote_cfm.cfm?congress=113&session=1&vote=00168
³<https://www.blumenthal.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/scotus-decision-to-review-immigration-executive-actions>
⁴<https://votesmart.org/candidate/126636/dan-carter#V2hTRfrK70>

Mending the Access Gap HOUSING



Everyone should have access to safe, affordable housing.

Connecticut has a shortage of 92,244 housing units that are affordable and available for extremely low-income renters.¹

Richard Blumenthal said, "I have fought to ensure that homeowners and renters are treated fairly by banks and other lenders. Congress must ensure that middle class families are still able to realize the dream of homeownership. I will continue my work to support Connecticut's housing industry and protect Connecticut homeowners and families."²

Dan Carter said he planned to fight for legislation in the Connecticut State House that would include "business-friendly bills that will create employment opportunities and provide new services to those in need" to end chronic homelessness by 2016.³

¹ <http://nlhrc.org/library/SHP>
² <https://www.blumenthal.senate.gov/issues/housing>
³ <http://cthousegop.com/2015/12/rep-dan-carter-prevention-is-key-to-fighting-homelessness-in-connecticut/>