

For State Representative 1<sup>st</sup> District

**Matthew Ritter** (Democratic)

*1. Why are you running for this office?*

The 2017 Legislative Session may be the most important session ever for the City of Hartford. The budget deficits for the City have become unsustainable and it will take State leadership to help our City emerge from its financial problems. I am eager to work with my legislative colleagues, the Mayor, and members of the Hartford City Council and Board of Education to create a better path forward to ensure that Hartford remains a strong and vibrant place to live and work.

*2. What are your top 3 legislative priorities?*

1. Fixing the way we fund our public school systems in Connecticut. I will also prioritize how we fund special education costs in our State.
2. Continuing efforts to ensure that working families can earn enough money to support themselves and their children. For example, indexing our State's minimum wage and looking at our State's family leave policies.
3. Ensuring that the State's Health Exchange remains financially solvent with multiple insurers to ensure competitive pricing and products.

*3. Do you believe there are barriers to voting in Connecticut? If so, what would you do to eliminate them?*

Yes. We should have no excuse absentee ballot voting.

**Ken Lerman** (Republican)

No response received.