

For State Senator – 4<sup>th</sup> District

**Steve Cassano** (Democratic, Working Families)

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

I have had the honor to serve as an elected official since 1977. No matter how much you accomplish, the list of needs to be addressed continues to grow, not shrink. There are serious challenges facing the next legislature and I want to continue to work to improve the quality of life for all of our residents. Budget cuts decimated progress for our neediest people and the first priority would be to restore funding for medical, housing, transportation and care for those citizens. I enjoy the challenges and have continued to work on a bi-partisan basis to solve these problems.

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

1. Restore the program cuts that have seriously and negatively impacted our most needy citizens.
2. Eliminate taxes on Social Security. It's a double tax. We have paid into the system and the federal government has been able to use those funds for years. It is unfair to tax what is supposed to be our retirement cushion for the future.
3. Work with all parties to make Connecticut a better place to live, work, do business and raise a family.

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

Yes. We are one of the few states that allow one day to vote. We should extend voting opportunities to at least five days including one Saturday. It would dramatically increase the opportunity to vote!

**Lorraine Marchetti** (Republican, Independent Party)

Website: [www.Lorraine4CT.com](http://www.Lorraine4CT.com)

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

For the past 20 years I've served as an elected official and as a member of numerous civic organizations. I have enjoyed working with colleagues who come from all political persuasions. Together, we have accomplished a great deal and helped better our communities.

I believe we have no choice but to challenge Connecticut's current leadership to redirect our state's future. Our current senator has voted to raise taxes and has supported reckless spending. He, the Governor and their fellow Democrats, created this mess and are incapable of recognizing or fixing our state's problems of big government, high taxes and continued borrowing. Our friends, our children and businesses are leaving the state, seeking lower taxes, stronger economies and a better quality of life. I am running to stop the hemorrhaging and win back the

employment, innovation and educational opportunities we deserve! I am running Because We Deserve Better.

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

My top three legislative priorities are fixing the state's budget problems, revitalizing our state's economy, and addressing education funding.

I will work to create a realistic state budget based on short term and long term goals that funds the core services necessary for a thriving community. I am determined to be your advocate in the CT State Senate and get our fiscal situation under control.

Our state's economy must be revitalized by reducing the tax and regulatory burden on businesses, so they can invest in our state and create jobs.

We must address the partially funded and unfunded state education mandates, and rework the education cost sharing formula to provide funding to towns that meets the educational needs of the population they serve.

We must send leaders to Hartford who are willing to make sacrifices, address tough issues, and work together for the best interests of all constituents.

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

Not sure what is meant by "barriers" to voting. When elected, I will make sure to address this topic and acquire the necessary information that will help me make an informed decision on this issue.