



## **Senator Beth Bye**

**Chair:** Appropriations

**Member:** Education; Higher Education & Employment Advancement

On November 2, 2010, Senator Beth Bye was elected to represent the citizens of the 5th Senate District which includes the Towns of Bloomfield, Burlington, Farmington and West Hartford. Beth is the Senate Chairwoman of the Appropriations Committee and is Vice Chair of both the Education and Higher Education and Employment Advancement committees.

Beth received her BA and MA in Child Development from the University of New Hampshire, and is widely recognized as one of the state's leading authorities on early childhood education. Beth has been a program director at Capitol Region Education Council, The University of Saint Joseph and Trinity College. She has a strong interest in program and facility development and had a role in the development of four model preschool programs in the Hartford region over the past 10 years, serving a combined 750 children.

Beth received a "Friend of the Family Award" in 2013 from the Connecticut Family Resource Alliance in recognition of her advocacy on behalf of quality early childhood programs in Connecticut. Beth also received "Legislator of the Year" awards in 2009 and 2011 from the Connecticut Early Childhood Alliance. She has been named an "Environmental Champion" by the Connecticut League of Conservation Voters and was also named one of Connecticut Magazine's "30 Young People of Influence."

Prior to the State Senate, Beth served as Vice Chairwoman of the West Hartford Board of Education for five years and represented the 19th House District for two years. She has coached various youth sports and is an active member of the West Hartford Unitarian Universalist Church.

Beth lives in West Hartford with her wife, Tracey Wilson. In 2008, they were the first gay couple to be married in Connecticut. Beth grew up in Greenwich, Connecticut and has five sisters, one brother and 24 nieces and nephews. She and her family enjoy tennis, skiing, the beach and entertaining friends and family.

<http://www.senatedems.ct.gov/Bye.php>