

WAXB FIRST QUARTER 2018

ISSUES AND PROGRAMS LIST

Each program is 30 minutes

Each program aired on the date indicated from

0600-0630

**DIALOGUE 2019 QUARTERLY REPORT: JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH
GUESTS AND SUBJECT MATTER DESCRIPTIONS**

Jan. 7, 2018 – Bridgeport Mayor Joe Ganim, Democratic gubernatorial hopeful

Subject Matter: Mayor Ganim discusses his campaign for governor and answers questions about how his campaign could be affected by his federal conviction for corruption and resulting prison term. On the issues, Ganim discusses the deficit crisis, transportation, tolls, and his competition in the gubernatorial contest.

Jan. 14, 2018: Amy Parmenter, a spokesperson for AAA in Connecticut.

Subject Matter: Parmenter discusses the challenges of winter driving and how AAA copes with a flood of service calls when cars get stuck in the snow or when motorists call for help after experiencing a dead battery. She also offers the latest update on gasoline prices and pricing trends for the months ahead. Parmenter describes steps motorists can take to be sure their vehicles are ready for the rigors of winter driving.

Jan. 21, 2018: State Sen. Kevin Witkos (R-Canton), deputy Republican Senate president pro tempore

Subject Matter: Witkos looks back at the seemingly never-ending 2017 legislative session and its accompanying extended budget battle. The GOP leader then focuses on the 2018 session and the potential for yet another struggle to control the state deficit. He discusses whether the level of bipartisanship on the budget, evidenced in 2017, can be continued even though 2018 is an election year for all lawmakers.

Jan. 28, 2018: State House Speaker Joe Aresimowicz (D-Berlin).

Subject Matter: Aresimowicz offers a Democratic view on the often chaotic 2017 legislative session and its accompanying budget battle. He looks ahead to the 2018 session and discusses whether it could be even more difficult than last year. Aresimowicz talks about highway tolls, the deficit crisis, taxes, and the impact election year politics may have on legislative business.

Feb. 4, 2018: State Rep. Tony Guerrero (D-Rocky Hill), co-chair of the legislature's Transportation Committee.

Subject: For years, Guerrero has been the most vocal supporter of bringing back highway tolls in a new electronic form as a revenue source. In the show, Guerrero answers several questions about tolls including how many might be installed, how electronic tolls work, how much tax revenue they might bring in,

and whether or not passage of a tolls bill will be dramatically affected by election year politics.

Feb. 11, 2018: Jillian Gilchrest, board member of the state's Permanent Commission on the Status of Women or PCSW.

Subject Matter: Gilchrest describes the current status of the PCSW. Once a state agency, PCSW is now a non-profit group advocating for women's issues. In the show, Gilchrest discusses sexual harassment in the workplace, a hot topic sparked by revelations about Hollywood executive Harvey Weinstein. She also discusses growing support for pay equity to benefit women, and earned family leave.

Feb. 18, 2018: State Rep. Vincent Candelora (R-North Branford), deputy House Republican leader.

Subject Matter: Candelora offers GOP views on Gov. Malloy's budget proposal and his decision to deliver that material before he made his annual state of the state address to the legislature. Candelora comments on Malloy suggestions to hike the state sales tax, raise money by legalizing marijuana, installing highway tolls, and potential tax changes. Candelora also is asked which party has a bigger "negative" to overcome--Republicans with President Trump, or the Democrats with Gov. Malloy.

Feb. 25, 2018: State Rep. Brenda Kupchick (R-Fairfield).

Subject Matter: Kupchick is a long-time advocate for animal rights at the state legislature. In the program, Kupchick talks about proposals for the 2018 legislature to advance animal rights. She says the issue is a matter of "moral obligation" for lawmakers. Kupchick explains proposals to insure pets have adequate shelter, how to define pet neglect, and insuring that persons convicted of animal cruelty get meaningful sentences instead of being given accelerated rehabilitation which many view as a slap on the wrist.

Mar. 4, 2018: State Sen. Joe Markley (R-Southington).

Subject Matter: Markley is an outspoken critic of bringing back highway tolls to Connecticut. In the interview, Markley contends tolls supporters have hidden the potential impact of tolls. He claims some reports suggest tolls could be placed on a long list of highways, not just I-95, I-84, and I-91. Markley said motorists could be paying tolls on virtually every limited access roadway. Markley said great uncertainty remains about how much revenue tolls can raise, how the money will be collected, and whether the equipment contractor would share in the revenues.

Mar. 11, 2018: Eric Hammerling, executive director of the Connecticut Forest & Park Association.

Subject Matter: Hammerling discusses the new “passport to the parks” program that will allow all Connecticut residents free admission to state parks, instead of paying parking or entrance fees. The program is funded using an extra fee when motorists renew their vehicle registrations. Hammerling said his group and other environmentalists will be watching the legislature carefully this year to prevent any effort to “raid” the newly-created parks fund to help remedy any deficit problems. Hammerling says free parks entry could boost parks attendance, and efforts must be made to determine how much this could increase the need for staff and maintenance.

Mar. 18, 2018: James Smith, co-chair of the State Commission on Fiscal Stability and Economic Growth.

Subject Matter: Smith, the former CEO of Webster Bank, describes the report of his Commission that was created to come up with short-term and long-term tactics to end Connecticut’s continuing deficit crisis. Smith discusses some controversial elements of the group’s report including hiking the state sales tax to 7.25%, raising some business taxes, hiking the gas tax, and eliminating collective bargaining for state employee benefits. Smith comments on the likelihood lawmakers will want to vote on the report in this politically-charged election year.

Mar. 25, 2018: State Rep. Josh Elliott (D-Hamden).

Subject Matter: Elliott, a leading supporter of legalization of marijuana in Connecticut, says legalization makes sense because nearby states are in the process of doing the same, and the state could use another revenue source that would be created by taxing the pot industry. Elliott also answers critics who claim marijuana is a “gateway drug” that will draw in more people to the drug culture including more harmful substances such as heroin and opioids. Elliott also offers his views on whether 2018, an election year, is the year a pot legalization vote will occur.

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