



# CAPITOL HILL GROUP

## CONNECTICUT

### **BIOGRAPHICAL PROFILE**

#### **David J. Cappiello, President of Capitol Hill Group, LLC**

David Cappiello is President of Capitol Hill Group, LLC, a Connecticut-based government and community relations firm. The mission of the firm is to assist businesses, non-profit organizations, and associations better understand and adeptly navigate both state and municipal governments in Connecticut, and to help them grow their presence within the state.

Prior to opening his firm, for five years David held the position of Vice President of Development and Communications at Ability Beyond, a non-profit organization based out of Bethel, Connecticut, serving people with disabilities in over ninety communities throughout Connecticut and New York. He successfully led their five-year comprehensive campaign effort to raise \$25 million, and also served as their in-house lobbyist.

David has a vast amount of government experience. In 2009, he served as Senior Budget and Policy and Advisor to the Connecticut Senate Republican Caucus and as Campaign Manager for U.S. Senate Candidate, Linda McMahon, in 2010.

David served five terms as Connecticut State Senator from the 24th District, representing the city of Danbury and towns of Bethel, New Fairfield, and Sherman. First elected to the state legislature in 1994 to the Connecticut House of Representatives from Danbury's 138th District, Senator Cappiello served two terms before being elected to the State Senate in 1998. Prior to his service in the state legislature, he was elected to the Danbury City Council in 1993. In 2008, David ran unsuccessfully for Connecticut's 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District.

While serving in the legislature, David held the position of Senate Deputy Minority Leader. He served as the Ranking Member of the legislature's budget-writing Appropriations Committee, as well as Ranking member of the General Law Committee, Chairman of the Internship committee, and member of the Judiciary, Program Review and Investigations, Human Services, Government Administration and Elections, Insurance and Real Estate, and Legislative Management Committees.

As a legislator, David had been recognized by a number of organizations for his legislative and community accomplishments. In 2003, the March of Dimes honored him for his longtime dedication to improving the health of newborns, was nominated by the Danbury Jaycees for the Distinguished Service Award in 1995, and was recognized by the Connecticut Chapter of AARP in 2006.

The American Red Cross of Western Connecticut honored Senator Cappiello in 2001 for his outstanding supportive efforts towards Disaster Relief Services post 9/11. The Senator was also a recipient of the WeCAHR 2003 Public Service Award for his ongoing service and support of children and adults with developmental disabilities. The Regional YMCA of Western Connecticut has recognized him for his supportive role in upholding their mission of “building strong kids, families and communities.” David also played a key legislative role in a critical battle with the state of Connecticut’s Office of Healthcare Access (OHCA) in successfully obtaining Danbury Hospital’s approval to provide Greater Danbury Area residents with direct access to Cardiac Care. Both the American Heart and Lung Associations have awarded Senator Cappiello for his commitment and dedication to a healthier Connecticut. The Connecticut Association of Non-Profits and Connecticut Community Providers have also honored the Senator for his steadfast commitment and service to the nonprofit sector of Connecticut.

Through the years, David has been actively involved in local civic organizations. In the late 1990s, he served as the Education Chairman of the United Way and has served as a member of the Ability Beyond Board of Trustees. For several years, he served at on Immaculate High School’s Development Committee and as Vice President of its Alumni Association, and currently serves as Chairman of their School Advisory Board. David recently finished a three-year term as a member of the Connecticut Judicial Selection Commission, and currently serves as a board member of Foundations in Education, a 501c3 created by Bishop Frank J. Caggiano, to support Catholic education in the Bridgeport Diocese.

David holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Justice and Law Administration from Western Connecticut State University. He currently resides in Newtown, CT with his wife, Christine, and two Children, Jack and Jude, and is a member of St. Rose of Lima Parish.