Steve Obsitnik’s Plan to Ensure CT’s Fiscal Stability & Economic Growth

- **5 Steps**
- **300,000 Jobs**
- **8 Years**
Summary of Steve Obsitnik’s 5-Step Plan

My 5-step economic plan will restart Connecticut’s job growth, increase the number of new business, and grow wages and salaries. With this plan, the productivity and creativity of our economy will thrive once again.

Step 1 Make State Government Smaller and More Efficient
Step 2 Make Connecticut More Affordable
Step 3 Retain Jobs and Grow the Economy in Connecticut
Step 4 Revitalize Education and Infrastructure
Step 5 Build a Connecticut Jobs Engine Around Career Corridors

The 5-step economic plan – over an 8-year period will:

• Create 300,000 jobs for the State of Connecticut
• Additional $3.8 billion in total state tax revenues as outcome of direct economic growth
• Bring stability to the state’s pension and benefit plans
• Improve government services while saving close to $3.5 billion annually
• Begin process to revitalizing our infrastructure and securing our schools
• Grow Connecticut’s economy by $35 billion or 15%
• Raise annual personal income by 8% or $20 billion
Connecticut cannot blame Washington for its problems – Hartford is the problem

- Connecticut citizens are voting with their feet
  100 people leave daily
- Connecticut’s economic decline is worst in U.S. (2006-2016 GDP growth)
  -0.4% CT vs. 1.1% U.S
- Connecticut never recovered jobs lost in the Great Recession
  Recovered 78% of CT Jobs vs. 108% for U.S
- Connecticut personal incomes are growing more slowly
  1.2% CT vs. 2.3% U.S
- Connecticut among highest levels of unfunded pension retirement liabilities
  35% CT vs. 78% U.S (current funding level)
- Connecticut job growth is stronger when government costs less
  Only 5,800 net jobs created since 1989

Making Connecticut and our economy the envy of America will require the leadership skills of an outsider who has actually created jobs to change how we do business in Hartford.
Five Steps to Reinvent Connecticut as a Financially Secure, Job Creation Model our Country

“For thirty years since I graduated from Stamford High, career politicians in Hartford have led us down a ‘Road to Ruin’ doing little to grow our economy.

But then again, how can we expect anything different when they’ve never been able to balance a budget, have to make payroll or create a job? Honestly, if the career politicians could have solved these problems they would have and another one won’t be any different. That’s why Connecticut needs a change agent, an outsider with real-world business experience to take responsibility for our state finances and our economy.

I am different. I grew up here, served in the US Naval submarine force here and have created hundreds of good paying, high tech jobs. And we need good paying jobs in Connecticut now more than ever.

I am the only candidate in this race with a comprehensive plan that will right our fiscal ship, balance the budget, address our unfunded liabilities and allow us once again to create good-paying jobs.

My 5-step plan isn’t rocket-science. In fact, it’s straightforward common sense. These principles allowed me to create jobs in the private sector. As your governor, my 5-step plan will restore financial stability to our state and create 300,000 jobs in 8 years.”

“Let’s make Connecticut the state that works!”
Five Steps to Reinvent Connecticut as a Financially Stable, Jobs Engine for our Country

**Five Step Plan**

**Step 1** Make State Government Smaller and More Efficient

**Step 2** Make Connecticut More Affordable

**Step 3** Retain Jobs and Grow the Economy in Connecticut

**Step 4** Revitalize Education and Infrastructure

**Step 5** Build a Connecticut Jobs Engine Around Career Corridors

**Key Addressable Problems**

- Outdated, Overly Expensive Government
- Unfunded Pension Liabilities
- Lagging Infrastructure
- Expanding Education Gap
- Growing Opportunity Gap Shrinks Job Growth
Make State Government Smaller and More Efficient

We can eliminate over $3.5 billion in annual spending while maintaining priorities in education, transportation, and healthcare funding.

- **Adopt Legislative Republican Budget Ideas:** Legislative Republicans have laid out detailed operational efficiencies totaling close to $2 billion in the last few years— we need to implement those on Day 1 in office.

- **Retirement Benefits Reform:** Align state employee pension and retirement benefits with other states could save almost $1 billion. All new state workers should be put on 401(k) plans, and increased contributions to health care will close the pension benefit funding gap.

- **Reforming Medicaid:** Focusing on outcomes and innovation by shifting to 3rd party managed Medicaid plans, using 1115 waiver and vigorously looking at fraud would save taxpayers over $500 million.

- **Veto Pork Barrel Spending:** Active use of the line item veto to eliminate individual spending that does not benefit all taxpayers.

- **Digital Government:** Utilize internet services to drive innovation and improve convenience and speed at a lower price to taxpayers.

“As Governor, I will require transparent budgeting and make Hartford accountable for every tax dollar spent.”
2 Make Connecticut More Affordable

We can lower taxes and remove burdensome regulation to make Connecticut more affordable.

- **Targeted Tax Reform**: Enact a middle class tax cut, reduce and look to phase out business taxes (corporate and pass through), repeal the estate/gift tax, and eliminate taxes on social security and pensions.

- **Eliminate Unfunded Mandates**: Limit state government’s control on local decisions by reducing unfunded mandates and prevailing wage rates to reduce local property taxes.

- **Eliminate Nuisance Taxes**: Nuisance taxes drive people and investment out of the Connecticut and have a minimal impact on state revenues. For example, the conveyance tax and the hundreds of fees/taxes that bring in little revenue and drive out people and jobs.

- **Broad-Based Tax Reform**: Once spending control and job creation generates a surplus, utilize that money for broader based tax cuts to promote further job growth.

“The income, property and estate taxes drive people out of the state. As Governor, I will tackle this head on through a methodical approach.”
We will create a “business-friendly” environment for small, medium and large companies alike by taking ideas that have worked in other states creating jobs.

- **Regulatory Cost/Benefit:** All regulations must undergo a cost-benefit analysis, and must be approved by legislature if costs outweigh benefits – or else they will be repealed.

- **Regulatory Sunset:** All regulations will sunset after 5 years, forcing a new cost-benefit analysis to determine if they need to be continued, changed, or repealed.

- **Expedite Permits:** Expedite permits for job creating industries. Look at automatic permit approval if state does not act within 6 months.

- **Repeal Tax Credits for Tax Cuts:** No sweetheart deals for specific companies; instead repeal all tax credits and use funds to lower taxes on all businesses.

- **Streamline Economic Development:** Simplify economic development initiatives and job training efforts allowing businesses to expand here (e.g., apprenticeship programs).

“As Governor, I will be Connecticut’s Chief Economic Development Officer. We will fight for every single job.”
Revitalize Education and Infrastructure

A strong education system, infrastructure that facilities business and reducing energy costs are all prerequisites to create a “jobs engine.”

- **Education Improvements**: Focus on student success and outcomes by having high standards for teachers and students, but allowing each city and town to determine the best way to achieve those standards. My plan will keep education on the local level by removing unfunded mandates and minimum budget requirements while allowing for local experimentation to fit their students’ particular needs. We will support charter schools and money-follows-the-child.

- **Transportation Focus**: Steady and predictable funding of the State Transportation Fund to make urgent and necessary investments of almost $100 billion. All STF funds must go into a lock box for the sole purpose of improving infrastructure. Revitalize roads, rails, airports and seaports using public-private partnerships as appropriate to upgrade our infrastructure and leverage our geographic location to drive economic growth.

- **Reduce Energy Costs**: Develop a comprehensive energy plan for our state. Reducing Connecticut’s high energy cost will save households up to $280 million and businesses almost $400 million annually.

“We will only capture the future by preparing for it. That means improving our education and infrastructure systems.”
Build a Connecticut Jobs Engine Around Career Corridors

We will create “Career Corridors” that create industry clusters—similar to the success other states have had (i.e., Roosevelt Island, Boston and Pittsburgh rejuvenation). Nurture industry clusters that, by conservative estimates, creates $7 of economic return for every $1 invested – a 7 times return on investment (ROI).

- **Utilize Education Advantage:** Support and attract world-class universities and applied research facilities to create jobs of the future (like Roosevelt Island in NYC). Align and integrate trade school and community college programs with business labor demand.

- **City-Focused:** Focusing these efforts in and around our cities will strengthen Connecticut’s urban centers laying the foundation for our future.

- **Industry-Focused:** Leverage Connecticut’s strengths in key industries like health care, advanced manufacturing and finance/insurance.

- **Public-Private Partnerships:** Invest in public-private partnerships in applied research, tech transfer, community colleges and business incubators.

“Creating career corridors will leverage our strengths and allow us to compete again.”
Connecticut’s Career Corridors
5-Steps to 300,000 Jobs in 8 Years
The Economic Impact of Steve Obsitnik’s 5-Step Plan

Through this 5-step economic plan, Connecticut’s job growth will restart, the number of new businesses will increase, wages and salaries will grow and the productivity and creativity of our economy will once again thrive.

The 5-step economic plan – over an 8-year period will:

• Create 300,000 jobs for the State of Connecticut
• Add $3.8 billion in total state tax revenues from direct economic growth
• Bring stability to the state’s retirement plans
• Improve government services while saving $3.5 billion annually
• Revitalize our education and infrastructure for this century
• Grow Connecticut’s economy by $35 billion or 15%
• Higher annual personal income by 8% or $20 billion
Let’s Reinvent Connecticut!
Let’s Make Connecticut
the State that Works!

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