

REBECCA PERKINS  
**KWOKA**  
**STATE SENATE**

Hi everyone,

As we move into March, I feel optimistic about the path our country is on. Meaningful COVID relief is making its way through Congress. The FDA approved another COVID vaccine. And the House passed the Equality Act last Thursday, sending a clear message that no discrimination will be tolerated against LGBTQ+ folks in our country.

Here's what else has been going on in the past two weeks, from a budget press conference to introducing four bills this week:

*Legislative Update*

**Save Our Granite Stages Act Receives Unanimous Committee Support:** Senator Becky Whitley and I's bill (SB 132) was passed by the Senate Health and Human Services Committee in a 4-0 bipartisan vote, moving us one step closer to delivering live venues much-needed relief!

**Introduction of Four Bills I'm Leading:** Earlier this week, I introduced four pieces of legislation to expand rental assistance and extend eviction notices (SB 126), improve renewable energy standards (SB 142), provide COVID relief funding for newly-opened businesses (SB 107), and make redistricting fairer through mandating public meetings and maps and ensuring that taxpayers' dollars used for redistricting are available to both political parties (SB 90). Passing this legislation will be crucial to helping our communities recover and paving the way for a more equitable, sustainable future.

**Affordable Housing Legislation:** As part of my package of legislation to solve our state's housing shortage, I introduced legislation in the SB 142 omnibus that would help address barriers to increased housing density. Legislation like this will be key to expanding housing stock, helping to keep more folks in our great state.

### *Events*

**NHYD Granite Slate Awards:** On February 18th, the New Hampshire Young Democrats held the 14th annual Granite Slate Awards, a fantastic event honoring incredible young Democrats throughout our state. A special shoutout to Seacoast's-own Clifton West for receiving one of the Progressive of the Year awards! Thanks to leaders like Clifton, our state is a better, more-inclusive place to live. My intern, Nick Randos, also was recognized. Go Nick!

**Chamber Chat LIVE!:** This past Friday, I joined The Chamber Collaborative of Greater Portsmouth to discuss Main Street funding, voting legislation, offshore wind, and housing. Logan stole the show at the end, dancing and singing along to their

music! Thank you to the Chamber for the great work that you do and I'm excited to continue supporting them from the Senate.

**Press Conference on Gov. Sununu's Budget Proposal:** Last Tuesday, the other four female Democratic Senators and I held a press conference discussing why Governor Sununu's proposed budget is bad for women and families. Proposed budget cuts to education, child care scholarships, and Family Resource Center funding will especially harm women, who have already been hit disproportionately hard economically from the pandemic. Check out the full press conference [here!](#)

Lastly, I wanted to take a moment and acknowledge that it was officially one year ago today that the first confirmed COVID-19 case appeared in NH. It has been a long 12 months for us all but I'm constantly so proud of the resiliency our community has shown. If we continue keeping our distance, wearing masks, and looking out for our neighbors, we'll be able to end this pandemic soon and enjoy the better days ahead.

And of course I can't sign off before giving an update on Miss Logan! She started daycare yesterday and I, like so many other moms, am nervous about a variety of things—will she like it? Will she nap? But I'm also excited that she'll get to spend time with other kids for the first time in her life!

Wishing you and yours a great start to the new month, and as always, please don't hesitate to reach out!





Stay safe and best wishes,  
Rebecca

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