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**KWOKA**  
**STATE SENATE**

Hi everyone,

Wow, these have been big weeks! From the budget to final bills to wrapping up committees - it has been a busy time!

First, happy Pride Month to all, from our family to yours! 🏳️‍🌈





We also attended Memorial Day ceremonies on Monday to honor those who never came home, and gave their lives in service to our country. May we honor their legacy through our own hard work to protect and preserve this democracy.

Tomorrow, we will be convening to hear and vote on the current budget bills (HB 1 and HB 2). Put together by the Majority, the proposed budget features many unacceptable elements — from banning the teaching of “divisive concepts” (HB 544) to enacting school voucher programs (SB 130). And most recently, they added HB 625, which would ban abortions after 24 weeks with almost no exceptions.

As someone who’s 27 weeks pregnant with my second child, I feel these attacks on reproductive rights personally. I will be speaking alongside the rest of the Senate Democrats against all of these policies, which are not in line with the State we all want - and will be. We are bringing a series of amendments to remove these harmful pieces of legislation from the budget tomorrow, and it promises to be a long day as we bring amendment after amendment fighting for ordinary Granite Staters and their homes, their families and their jobs. I have also been working on an amendment

to protect funds for homeless shelters, and protecting items important to our district like offshore wind, the turning basin upgrade for the port, and reducing or removing the proposed higher education merger to a study commission, all of which is crucial to being thoughtful, sustainable stewards of our lovely state we all call home.

In addition to budget work, I'm proud to say legislation I led to help tenants stay in their homes, moms in the workplace and improve election accessibility is moving forward! Check out below for more on where crucial legislation stands:

## Legislative Update

**Landlord-Tenant Protections Passes House Committee unanimously:** The House Judiciary Committee unanimously passed SB 126 out of Committee with a recommendation of Ought to Pass, which would give tenants time up to their eviction hearing to pay any rent in arrears.

**Senate Bipartisan support for Housing Policy:** The Senate unanimously passed floor amendments last week supporting the Housing Conservation and Planning Program, and the Commission to Study Reducing Barriers to Density, both of which were priorities of the housing community - and mine! - this year. Such bills are on to Committee of Conference the week of June 10th.

**Senate Passes Bipartisan Workplace Lactation Bill Amendment:** The Senate passed language from Senator Becky Whitley and I's bill, SB 69, requiring employers to provide access to a sufficient space and a reasonable break for nursing mothers. There was strong bipartisan work that made this possible and it will be key to help keep women in the workforce!

**Electronic Ball Box Bill Passes House Committee Ma**

**ELECTRONIC POLL BOOK BILL PASSES HOUSE COMMITTEE:** My electronic polling books legislation (SB 46) unanimously passed the House Election Law Committee! The full floor vote is expected soon—contact your Rep and urge them to support this bill to make wait times shorter and lessen the burden on poll workers.

**SB 233 Re-Referred:** The Senate Judiciary re-referred SB 233, a dangerous bill that denies grieving families the compassionate care they deserve. This bill should have no place in our state and we'll keep working to ensure it stays that way.

**Advocating Against GOP Voter Registration Changes:** Throughout the session, the Majority has worked to undermine efforts to strengthen our democracy, shooting down crucial reforms I've led to make our redistricting process more fair and transparent. Now, they have proposed changes to N.H. voter registration that make it harder for law-abiding folks to vote. I'll continue to speak out against these proposed changes and work with my colleagues around the state to protect voting rights. For more, check out this [NHPR article](#).

## Events Update

**Braver Angles Town Hall:** I am joining a long-time friend Doug Teschner on Monday, June 7th for a bipartisan look at our election laws and a discussion about voter participation. Given the recent audit in Windham, which was conducted on a fully bipartisan basis, was recently conducted, we'll discuss that process and other results from the session.

**Safe Water Advisory Group:** We don't just do Senate Committees! Senators are also part of various boards and commissions that are regional and statewide, and one that I am a part of it SWAG, or our local safe water advisory group. I'll be joining them next Thursday night

to discuss legislation from this session which affected  
- and protected - our water.

## Looking Ahead

Lastly, I want to condemn what recently happened in Nashua. There has been a rise in white supremacist acts in our state, most notably, the National Socialist (Nazi) Club defaced murals in Nashua and threatened State Rep. Manuel Espitia personally in late May. It is exactly this kind of behavior that motivated Senator Whitley and I to introduce the Inclusive Outdoors Act earlier this session - and we'll be fighting for it again tomorrow on the Senate floor. Our beautiful state belongs to all of us who live here and all should feel safe. To all those who were made to feel unsafe by these acts, know that you belong and that there is a large community behind you.

This is a big week and I have already heard from many of you on how you hope to see our budget come together. I will be sure to send you an update at the end of the week once the dust settles, but know that I will be fighting to ensure we come away with a budget that respects reproductive rights, lifts up our communities after a tough year, and ensures all folks can thrive - towards the State we all want and can be.

As always, yours in service and community,  
Rebecca

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