

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

Hi everyone,

Last week, the budget passed in a partisan vote and was signed into law on late Friday afternoon quietly by the Governor. It was a long fight to remove provisions that enacted school voucher programs, restricted reproductive rights, and silenced critical conversations on race and gender. While we were not able to convince our colleagues across the aisle to see the danger in the policies they were voting for, I am grateful for my Senate Democrat colleagues, not only for their fierce advocacy but for their kindness. After the budget vote last week, they surprised me and our new little one with a small celebration as we adjourned for the summer!









As we move forward, we need to remember that history is long. We are on the right side by opening our hearts and arms, by welcoming an understanding of our privilege, by standing up for equality and equity for all, by realizing that we all win when we care for our most vulnerable, our needy, our neighbors. This budget does not reflect that vision for America and New Hampshire, but it does not permanently damage it. Next year, and in years to come, we will once again join hands, lace up our sneakers, and fight for this shared future. And we will win, together.

### Events Recap

**Logan's First Pride!!** This weekend, Katelyn and I took Logan to her first Pride celebration in Portsmouth! It was a beautiful day to celebrate her two mommies and LGBTQ folks across our state. Huge shoutout to all those who helped organize the festivities!!



**Family-Friendly Economy Rally:** This weekend, I also had the chance to join Senator Watters at the Family-Friendly Economy Rally in Dover. It was a great day to promote the impact that policies like paid family leave would have on working families. Thank you to 603 Forward, Family Friendly Economy, Rights & Democracy, and others for organizing and for your advocacy!

**Anti-Woman, Anti-Family Budget Press Conference:** I joined advocate Laurie McCray, Police Commissioner Stefany Shaheen, and Senator Tom Sherman yesterday to highlight the lack of trust in women that this budget contains. In addition to a 24-week ban on abortion with no exceptions for rape, incest or fetal health - and one of the most narrow exceptions for maternal health in the country - the budget now contains a mandatory ultrasound for women seeking an abortion, even in the early weeks of their pregnancy. This ultrasound is an invasive procedure on a woman's body



meant to shame her - it is not driven by health concerns; it is driven by politicians being present in the room with a woman and her doctor. [Read more in the Portsmouth Herald.](#)



## Looking Ahead

As Pride month and our celebration of Juneteenth comes to a close, let's continue to think of ways to support the LGBTQ+ and BiPOC communities. The New Hampshire High School Democrats put together a great collection of resources that includes organizations and hotlines for LGBTQ+ folks, and Our Moment is a great organization working to increase the diversity of New Hampshire's representation. If you can, consider donating to both organizations, and sharing this information with your friends and family.



# hotlines

*LGBT National Hotline*

*1-888-843-4564*

*LGBTQ Teens Online Talk Group*

*help@lgbthotline.org*

*The Trevor Project*

*1-866-488-7386*

*LGBT Youth Hotline*

*1-800-246-7743*

*Trans Lifeline*

*1-877-565-8860*

# donate

*OutRight Action International*

*The Trevor Project*

*The Marsha P. Institute*

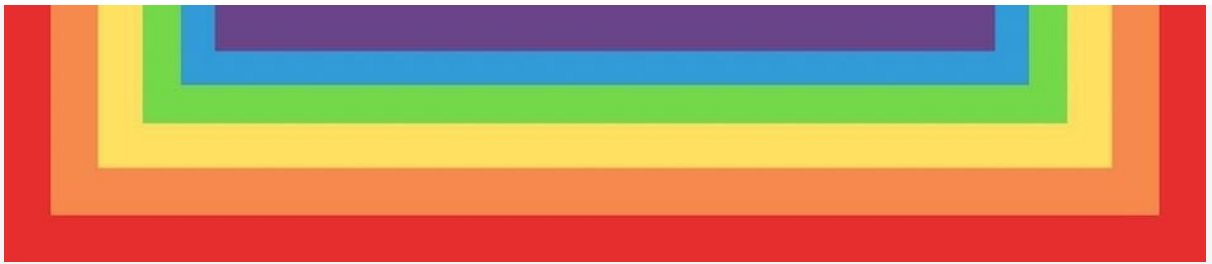
*It Gets Better Project*

*The Global Fund*

*International AIDS Society*

*Black Pride*

*The Network/LA Red*



And with session wrapping up for the year, I want to take a moment to thank you all again for your support and for trusting me to represent our community. It has been an honor to be your Senator and I look forward to getting back to work next session—fighting for the inclusive, safe, and prosperous future we believe in.

Have a safe and relaxing 4th of July holiday!

Take Care,  
Rebecca

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