

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

Hi,

Thanks so much again to the 50+ who made it to our Fall Fundraiser last week! It was great to see familiar faces and welcome new ones as we chatted about the latest around the state and looked forward to 2022. Speaking of...

It's that time of year again! I'm in the process of finalizing my legislative package for next session, an exciting slate of bills that protects reproductive rights, invests in infrastructure, strengthens our democracy, and helps small businesses thrive.

Among the many bills are:

- **Protecting NH women:** The New Hampshire Access to Abortion-Care Act codifies access to reproductive healthcare, regardless of what may or may not happen on the federal level
- **Protecting our elections:** Inspired by folks across the state who came to our Redistricting meetings and called for a fair process, I have filed a bill which outlaws gerrymandering. Our democracy is sacred and we must continue working to strengthen it.

- **Protecting our homes:** Building off my landlord-tenant rental assistance law, I filed legislation to support the Landlord-Tenant Mediation Pilot Program, spearheaded by Judge David King and his staff at the circuit court. This program continues to create innovative ways to avoid evictions and mitigate issues between landlords and tenants.

Many other bills came from you, including the NH Craft Cocktail Support Act for the Craft Brewers' Association, and legislation to support widening the turning basin along the coast. As we finalize requests, please don't hesitate to reach out. I always love hearing your input—after all, this is your seat!

With my fundraising deadline at the end of November fast approaching, I will also need your help to send a message that our communities will not stand for the GOP's gerrymandering and disregard for community safety. Chip in to help flip the Senate blue and advance our legislative priorities!

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Legislative Update

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law + House Passes Build Back Better Act: I'm proud of our Delegation's work in passing the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill. The funding will go a long way for our state, from \$11 billion for roads and

for our state, from \$1.1 billion for roads and bridges, to \$125 million for public transportation, and countless green, good paying jobs. Following this historic accomplishment, the House passed the Build Back Better Act, which includes paid family and medical leave, rental assistance, and the extension of the Child Tax Credit. As it moves to the Senate, I'm confident that Senators Hassan and Shaheen will continue fighting to deliver these key programs for our communities.

Executive Council Reverses Federal Vaccine Funds

Vote: Rejecting federal vaccine funds was always the wrong move and I'm glad to see the Executive Council reverse course. The delay cost New Hampshire weeks of planning, however, and we must continue holding GOP leadership accountable as we work to keep our communities safe.

Letter to the Bureau of Planning and Community

Assistance: Earlier this month, I sent a letter to the Bureau of Planning and Community Assistance, advocating to expedite the noise reduction efforts for Portsmouth communities in the Pannaway Manor and New Franklin School neighborhoods. By combining existing projects, the Bureau could move the end date up from 2026 to 2023. This would deliver residents long-awaited relief from enduring noise from Interstate 95. Additionally, I called for a comprehensive study on public transit in New Hampshire and urged support for Rockingham Planning Commission's Rail-to-Trail program.

Events Update

Redistricting Press Conference: On November 12, I

joined several colleagues at a press conference to speak out against the gerrymandered Congressional Map draft. Our current districts have existed for 140+ years. Now, the GOP wants to scrap them to maintain power. I can't help but think how fundamentally New Hampshire will be changed if our maps are gerrymandered. This is not what Granite Staters want and we will continue to counter this blatant partisan power grab. For more, watch the full press conference [here](#)!

NHDP Convention: Being a part of the NH Democratic Party Convention earlier this month made me even more proud of what our party stands for. We made it clear that we are the party for good paying jobs, world-class public education, and protecting abortion rights, BIPOC rights, and LGBTQ+ rights. Didn't catch the convention? Check it out [here](#)!

NHSaves Press Conference & Energy Efficiency: Over the last week, I've joined colleagues in speaking out against the closure of NHSaves and Chairwoman Martin's rejection of NH's energy efficiency plans. These moves force businesses and school districts to scrap years of investment and place a greater burden on taxpayers. To remedy this issue, I am co-sponsoring legislation this session to keep NHSaves and the energy efficiency standards in place. We can't bail on our communities and future generations.

Looking Ahead

Over Thanksgiving, I hope you found time to connect with loved ones and celebrate all that

you are grateful for. I know I'm thankful for my family, which grew to four just a few months ago. We had a fun Thanksgiving with Nonna, Mimi, and Dede! Chag Sameach to those who celebrate!



From my family to yours, wishing you a happy and healthy holiday season!

Take Care,
Rebecca

[603-793-1076](tel:603-793-1076)
voterebeccanh@gmail.com

PAID FOR BY REBECCA PERKINS KWOKA
FOR STATE SENATE

P.O. Box 1256, Portsmouth, NH 03801-1256

Bernice Brody, Treasurer

3 Hillside Drive, Portsmouth, NH 03801

