

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

Hi,

The 2022 session is officially underway and unfortunately partisan politics are strong at the moment. The House has already voted to pass the clearly-gerrymandered Congressional maps and table our workplace lactation bill. And this week there are hearings on my abortion bill and a possible vote on Senate maps!

Many of my other pieces of legislation are starting to pick up steam. I wanted to share an overview of my legislative package of 16 bills for the 2022 session, and an update on the most urgent issues. Here is the latest:

- **Access to Abortion-care Act Hearing TOMORROW, 1/19:** Starting at 1 pm tomorrow, the Senate Judiciary Committee will hear a repeal of the 24-week ban and the proactive Access to Abortion-care Act that that I am leading with Senator Whitley.

Reminder

Reminder

In 2021, nearly 600 abortion restrictions were introduced nationwide, with 90 enacted into law — more than in any year since Roe v. Wade — **including New Hampshire's first abortion ban in modern history.**

Act

Ignore

a ACCESS TO
ABORTION
CARE ACT

Planned
Parenthood
Ask. No matter what.
Planned Parenthood
New Hampshire Action Fund

Here are actions you can take to support this important bill:

1. Sign up to SUPPORT my bill, and repeal of the 24-week ban!
 - Go here → [The New Hampshire State Senate](#), and select January 19, then click on Senate Judiciary Committee. Select 1:00 SB 399 and check off that you are a member of the public and you are representing “myself.” Then check off “I support this bill” and click continue to fill out the rest of your information. Repeat these steps but for SB 436 which is at 2:00.
 2. If you are a part of an organization, ask them to sign on to [the coalition letter](#)
 3. [Share the petition](#) to support the AAA
 4. If comfortable, come testify. If you are not comfortable coming to testify (see above) feel free to record some testimony for a video and send it to me - I can share it via social media or to Planned Parenthood!
- **Redistricting Vote Likely Thursday:** As mentioned, we may have a vote on the gerrymandered Senate maps as soon as Thursday. These maps would make 15 GOP-held seats less competitive. I’m

make is get held seats less competitive. I'm working hard to make sure more fair maps make it to the Governor's desk. It is not too late to oppose the current maps: reach out to your Senator [here](#) and [urge](#) Governor Sununu not to sign them into law. And encourage your friends from other districts to do the same!

After spending the Fall on the Senate Redistricting Committee, hearing from folks on the importance of a fair process, I am also leading legislation (SB 255) to outlaw gerrymandering and prevent these maps from taking effect. Competitive, grassroots elections are a huge part of what makes our state and democracy special. Having been born and raised in NH, I will keep fighting to ensure these traditions remain alive. Here's what I said at the January 10th hearing on redistricting:

"This committee is doing the work that is one of our most sacred duties - to make sure that our districts reflect our democracy and that here in New Hampshire we continue to have the most fair and balanced elections that we can. Every two years we come together around the election process; we knock on each others' doors, we make phone calls, we have conversations and we come back together. Without that process, our partisan divide will continue to creep into our civic culture and take away what is most precious about New Hampshire." - **Senator Rebecca Perkins Kwoka (D-Portsmouth)**



- **Housing and Renter Protection:** Last session, I was proud to see my renters protection bill signed into law, codifying a crucial guardrail to keep tenants in their homes. I am confident we can build on that work this session. One of the bills I'm leading would extend eviction notices to 90 days and provide stronger renters protections in the event a landlord decides to renovate, repair, or sell the property. I am also leading legislation to assess barriers to housing development and support the successful landlord-tenant mediation program led by Judge King of the Circuit Court - which has kept 80% of renters in their homes! Together, these bills will help struggling families stay in their homes, so they can be a thriving part of our society.

- **Energy Efficiency:** In collaboration with UNH and the Pease Development Authority, I filed legislation to support their solar energy projects. My legislation will expand the current net metering program and make it explicitly clear that the University System, the Community College System, and Pease Development Authority are eligible to take part in the municipal host net metering program. This change would be a huge step toward creating a more sustainable and renewable energy system.
- **Expanding Access to Public Meetings:** I have filed new legislation to require expanded remote access to public meetings. Doing so has strong democratic benefits, allowing a diverse range of people to participate who otherwise would be unable to, including families. As we have already seen this year, a return to in-person meetings has reduced public engagement in hearings—not out of a lack of interest, but because of inaccessibility and inevitable time constraints. We need to ensure all people of differing abilities and employment can fully participate in our democracy.
- **District Legislation:** At the request of constituents, I am leading legislation to widen the turning basin to ensure modern vessels can pass through, bringing with them huge economic potential. I also submitted the NH Craft Cocktail Support Act, which was brought by the Craft Brewers' Association. This act will be another tool in the toolbox to aid the craft liquor industry in their pandemic recovery. I've so enjoyed hearing from you on legislation you see as important to keep our

communities thriving, and I promise to keep fighting for them.

As this legislation makes its way through Concord, we will need your help to show strong support. Keep an eye out for hearing dates—we would love for as many people as possible to attend. And if you can't make it, signing in online is always a strong way to make your voice heard. We may be in the minority, but strong committee showings can flip votes in our favor.

Wishing you and your family a great start to 2022!

Take Care and Bans Off My Body,

Rebecca

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**BANS
OFF MY
BODY**



Planned Parenthood
New Hampshire Action Fund

If you believe in the work I'm doing, please support my campaign with a donation.

\$25

\$50

\$100

\$250

\$500

Other

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