

# REBECCA PERKINS KWOKA STATE SENATE

Hi,

I want to start off by acknowledging and severely condemning the series of anti-semitic and racist attacks in Portsmouth this past week. These attacks are unfortunately not isolated and are a direct consequence of unchecked hate speech and racism in our country. Nobody should feel unsafe in their community; and even more than that, we should be celebrating diversity and pushing for a communal environment that welcomes more. We have to do better and demand accountability.

To that end, BLM Seacoast is organizing a wonderful event later today at the Cup of Joe. Stop by to pick up some flowers and let folks know we have their backs.



With winter raging on here in New Hampshire, our Senate session was pushed to Wednesday. We had many exciting votes which included passage of:

👶 **MOMnibus**, which passed unanimously! Components of the bill include extending postpartum Medicaid coverage to 1 year, implementing a workplace lactation program, and investing in our children's mental health care.

👫 **SB 198**, which authorizes the study of insurance coverage for same-sex couples and single individuals seeking assisted reproduction—an important step toward parity in care.

👮 **SB 108**, which allows the public defender program to opt into state health insurance, honoring the hard work of our state employees.

🌬️ **SB 152**, establishing a committee to study workforce needs for offshore wind and training programs, including at Great Bay Community College. Huge for our developing offshore wind industry right here on the Seacoast!

👨 **SB 207**, establishing a committee to continue the study of licensure of mental health professionals. With NH facing a critical shortage in providers, this study will be crucial to tackling barriers to hiring new staff.

Over the last two weeks, I also introduced several bills including one of my major priorities, the Housing Champions program (SB 145). This bill is the result of a hard-working, bipartisan coalition dedicated to tackling our state's housing crisis. Through the Housing Champions program, we can help empower municipalities to improve workforce housing stock which is key to addressing a myriad of issues, from small business support to the healthcare worker shortage. Read more [here](#)!

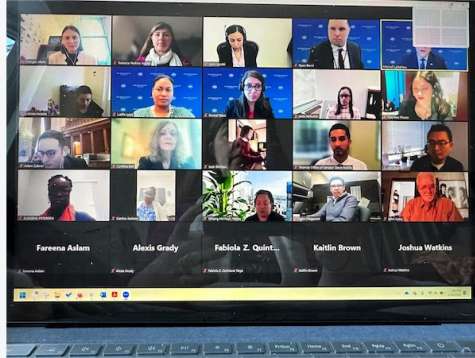
## Events

**Anheuser-Busch Portsmouth Investment:** Last Friday, I had the honor of helping to introduce Anheuser-Busch's new \$6 million investment in their Portsmouth facility, Cisco Brewers. A-B has played a huge role in our state, investing over \$34 million in payroll and contributing millions of

dollars in state tax revenue. This investment is a testament to our community—cheers to that!



**White House Briefing:** Last week, I attended a White House briefing on the distribution of infrastructure funds today, where I met so many wonderful people. Having a good infrastructure ensures the flow of goods and services which is so crucial for our state!



**Housing Caucus Kickoff:** Thank you to the 55 legislators who came to support the Housing Caucus! Tackling the housing crisis is crucial for so many reasons—from attracting and retaining a younger, more diverse population to supporting our working families and small businesses. Support like this will be key as we work on important legislation this session!



**Portsmouth Dems / BHTF Listening Session:** We had a great meeting for the Portsmouth Dems last week, followed by listening sessions to debrief on the 2022 elections in Rockingham County. Caucus for this Committee will be set for March, date TBD.

**Roger Wood Interview:** Last week, I had the opportunity to catch up with Roger Wood and Moms Rising to talk about the exciting work we are doing to support our Granite State moms. From MOMnibus to SB 175's support of postpartum services, great things are coming with this session's slate of legislation this session. Listen [here!](#)

**Back-to-Session Fundraiser:** I had a great time with folks at my first fundraiser of 2023 on the 8th! We had a great turnout in Concord and I'm excited to continue talking with folks about the exciting things we are working on and the future we are building toward.

Lastly, I hope you all are staying warm and finding ways to enjoy the snow when you can!









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

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FOR STATE SENATE

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