

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Franklin Resident Ndoumbe Ndoye Honored as a Commonwealth Heroine by the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women

Senator Rausch nominated Ndoumbe Ndoye for her local activism and contributions to the Franklin Community

BOSTON – Today, Ndoumbe Ndoye of Franklin, Massachusetts was named a Commonwealth Heroine by the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women. In a virtual ceremony, Ndoye was celebrated along with over 120 fellow heroines of Massachusetts for her exemplary service to her community. Senator Becca Rausch nominated Ndoye for her local activism and commitment to advancing racial equity and justice within the town of Franklin and beyond.

Ndoye, a recent graduate of Franklin High School, is a young leader, role model, activist, and organizer dedicated to combatting social injustice. Ndoye has served in numerous leadership roles, including as president of the FHS Diversity Awareness Club, a local campaign organizer, and a mentor for children of color. Ndoye actively strives to create a better environment for marginalized groups in predominantly white spaces. She is well known for her <a href="Kneel for Nine speech">Kneel for Nine speech</a> on the Franklin Town Common in June 2020 after the death of George Floyd, where she shared her personal experiences with racism. Ndoye plans to study political science and government on a pre-law track as she heads off to college this year.

The Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women gives the <u>Commonwealth Heroine award</u> annually to "women who don't always make the news but truly make a difference." This year, in lieu of an in-person ceremony at the State House, the Commission streamed the ceremony virtually over Facebook live to celebrate women across the Commonwealth for their contributions to their communities.

"Ndoumbe is a powerful force for good in our community, and I am deeply grateful for her dedication to advancing equity and justice," said Senator Becca Rausch. "As a recent high school graduate, Ndoumbe is a trusted voice and role model for not only her peers and classmates but also to local elected officials and community leaders. Ndoumbe's future is incredibly bright, and I'm thrilled to see the multitude of ways she continues to leave her impact on the town of Franklin and this Commonwealth."

The Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women is a state-established body created in 1998 charged with reviewing the status of women in Massachusetts and offering recommendations regarding policy that would improve access to opportunities and equality.

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Senator Becca Rausch represents the Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex District, comprised of Attleboro, Franklin, Millis, Natick, Needham, Norfolk, North Attleborough, Plainville, Sherborn, Wayland, Wellesley, and Wrentham.