

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SENATOR RAUSCH ANNOUNCES VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS, REMOTE OFFICE OPERATIONS AS BEST PRACTICES AMID COVID-19 OUTBREAK

Senator Rausch and her staff will remain accessible to constituents via phone and email, will provide weekly COVID-19 updates via newsletter

Boston, MA – Senator Becca Rausch (D-Needham) has temporarily closed her State House office and will continue to serve constituents of the Bristol, Norfolk, and Middlesex District remotely to promote the safety and public health of the communities she represents. This decision came in response to public health experts' encouragement of social distancing to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Senator Rausch will shift her monthly office hours to virtual office hours held remotely every two weeks on Friday mornings. The senator's first virtual office hours will take place **Friday, March 27th from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm** (link here). Conversations with the Senator and her staff will take place over Google Hangouts, Skype, and phone calls. Residents from any part of the Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex District are welcome to share their questions and opinions on state issues with Senator Rausch and her staff. Constituents may reserve 15-minute appointments in advance at <u>beccarauschma.com/office-hours</u>.

"Even amidst a public health emergency, it is essential that legislators remain in constant communication with the communities they represent," said Senator Rausch. "Physical social distancing is a critical tool to prevent the spread of disease, and I am committed to virtually meeting with my constituents while I continue working with my Senate colleagues to curb the COVID-19 outbreak in our Commonwealth."

Senator Rausch will host biweekly office hours remotely every other week until further notice. Upcoming dates are as follows:

- Friday, April 10th, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
- Friday, April 24th, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

To subscribe to Senator Rausch's weekly COVID-19 updates, please visit <u>https://www.beccarauschma.com/covid19</u>. Constituents can still contact the Senator and her team at 617-722-1555 or email <u>becca.rausch@masenate.gov</u> to share their opinion on state issues, seek assistance, or schedule a call with the Senator or her staff. Residents can also get live updates from the Senator via Twitter (<u>@BeccaRauschMA</u>) and Facebook (<u>@BeccaRauschMA</u>).

Please note: Senator Rausch's previously scheduled in-person office hours for Millis on Friday, March 27th and Wayland on April 13 **will no longer take place.**

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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. Currently in her first term, Senator Rausch serves as the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Municipalities and Regional Government and the Senate Vice Chair of the Joint Committee on Elder Affairs.