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**SENATOR RAUSCH FILES LEGISLATION TO UPLIFT  
HEALTH, DEMOCRACY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

*Focused 50-bill portfolio aims to protect public health and reproductive freedom,  
reduce plastic pollution, modernize our election systems, and more*

**BOSTON, MA** – State Senator Becca Rausch (D-Needham) filed a suite of legislation last Friday to advance justice, fairness, and democracy across a host of policy issues, including elections and democracy, human and environmental health, education, and civil rights. Among the [50 bills](#) she introduced are measures to protect and uplift abortion rights, reduce plastic waste, modernize our elections infrastructure, implement safeguards to avert outbreaks of preventable disease, and many other bills designed to defend against coming attacks on freedoms and safety from the new federal administration.

“Now more than ever, we need bold legislation to ensure the future of our elections, democracy, civil rights, reproductive freedoms, and environment,” said **Senator Becca Rausch**. “As those in power in Washington roll back so much of what my constituents hold near and dear, I’m proud to put forward a strong agenda that pushes for progress on our shared values, including keeping our families and communities healthy, improving critical infrastructure, and promoting transparency and accountability in government.”

Senator Rausch’s legislative priorities include four lead bills:

The [Abortion Access Act](#) will further break down barriers to reproductive care in Massachusetts. Building on last year’s successful banning of ultrasounds by unlicensed fake women’s health centers, the 2022 abortion shield and protections law, and the 2020 ROE Act, the bill would ensure that life-saving care is provided, eliminate parental consent requirements, and empower patients and providers to choose the clinical setting for abortion procedures. It also introduces a state-level emergency care requirement for hospitals, as a complement to and, if necessary, replacement for federal law currently requiring hospitals to provide appropriate stabilizing care regardless of patient’s ability to pay.

The [Plastics Reduction Act](#), a version of which passed the Senate in a sweeping 38-2 bipartisan vote in 2024, will simultaneously tackle the twin crises of plastic pollution and climate change. The bill will reduce single-use plastics, boost bulk recycling, and support our communities and small businesses.

The [Elections Modernization Act](#) centralizes and drastically improves election infrastructure, lessening the burden on small towns, local clerks, and municipal budgets. It will give citizens more time to register to vote, provide a permanent vote by mail option, ensure ballots mailed on time will be counted, and move the date of state primaries to June. It also improves municipal reimbursement for voting expenses.

The [Community Immunity Act](#) supports student and public health by creating much-needed consistency and standardization in public health reporting. The bill will track vaccination data and protect against future outbreaks and pandemics while engaging with communities through immunization education and outreach.

Additional bills in the Senator's portfolio would significantly reduce the need for legislative review of routine [local home rule petitions](#), [address hostile learning environments on college campuses](#), [expand the jurisdiction of the state's ballot review commission](#), [enact a state press shield law](#), and [create a choreographer laureate of the Commonwealth](#).

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*Now serving her fourth term, State Senator Becca Rausch (D-Needham) represents 11 towns that comprise the Norfolk, Worcester and Middlesex District: Bellingham, Dover, Franklin, Medfield, Milford, Millis, Needham, Norfolk, Plainville, Sherborn, and Wrentham.*