

This Mother's Day, Support Trained, Experienced Moms Running for Office

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The problem: It's not enough to celebrate mothers one Sunday a year. To truly respect and honor the strength, drive, and skill of the women and mothers in our communities, we need to ensure that they are represented in government by electing more trained and experienced moms to public office.

The solution: Six (6) members of the Emerge MA 2018 cohort – all mothers – are currently running for legislative seats all across the Commonwealth. Five of these six women are running to unseat Republican incumbents and flip their respective districts. We can support their campaigns by donating, volunteering, and of course voting in the primary on September 4, 2018, and the general election on November 6, 2018.

Emerge is a highly selective program designed to increase the number of diverse, Democratic women leaders in public office through recruitment, training, and providing a powerful network.

<https://emergema.ngpvanhost.com>

The women: Working moms, progressive Democrats, from diverse backgrounds, many running to flip Republican-held seats from red to blue. All members of the Emerge MA 2018 cohort. They are exceptionally well-qualified, experienced, trained women who can win and lead.

RUNNING FOR STATE SENATE

Becca Rausch, Candidate for MA State Senate, Norfolk, Bristol & Middlesex District: The granddaughter of a Holocaust survivor and a mother of two, Becca Rausch has fought her entire life for social justice, fairness, and equality for all people. She is an elected Needham Town Meeting Member and an attorney with over a decade of experience in both the private and public sectors, including serving as a union steward and a lawyer for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. As State Senator, Becca will prioritize progressive social policies that support families and strengthen our communities. Her platform includes broadening access to quality, affordable health care and advocating for innovative approaches to addressing the opioid epidemic; supporting public schools and efforts to create safe, healthy learning environments for all children; and improving public transit infrastructure and expanding services to provide better access to more riders. She is running to flip Scott Brown's former seat, currently held by four-term incumbent and former State Representative (3 terms) Republican Richard Ross.

www.beccarausch.com

RUNNING FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Suzanne Patrice Bruce, Candidate for MA State Representative, 9th Suffolk District: Born and raised in Boston, Suzanne has a deep understanding of how government can best serve the people, and of what the people of her district want and need. As a teenage mother, she knew poverty and hardship, and was able to overcome many challenges with the support of her community and public programs. She went on to earn a Master of Public Policy from Tufts University, and has spent the past 25 years doing advocacy work, with a focus on access to and delivery of healthcare. A mother of two with two grandchildren, Suzanne is running against 35-year incumbent Byron Rushing with the goal of building on his many accomplishments and helping the district move forward into the next decade with vision and vigor.

Emily Farrer, Candidate for MA State Representative, 3rd Bristol District: Over and over, Emily, a Taunton native and mother of three, has heard a desire for a fresh voice to represent the 3rd Bristol. She thought about what that candidate could look like: someone who understood the juggling act of working families and would fight for a living wage; someone who would advocate for the funding of compassionate

solutions to the opioid epidemic; and someone who would enthusiastically support Taunton's master plan and blossoming downtown scene. After much consideration, she realized she is that candidate. Her inspiration is the saying, "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far go together." Her college education taught her that inspiration only gets you so far and that real success only comes with hard work, so let's go further with Farrer. Emily is running to unseat seven-year incumbent Republican Shaunna O'Connell. <http://www.emilyfarrer.com>

Allison Gustavson (D-Manchester) Candidate for State Representative, 4th Essex District: Allison is a parent, former teacher, small business manager, and community volunteer running for state representative to bring fresh, proactive leadership to the crucial issues facing Ipswich, Topsfield, Manchester, Hamilton, Wenham and Rowley: education, economic and fiscal well-being, and protecting the rivers, beaches, marshes and open spaces that define our area. A pro-choice and pro-common sense gun safety proponent, Allison will bring the same passion and determination to Beacon Hill that she brought to Essex County #6 Indivisible, which she founded in 2016 to create a new and vigorous forum for civic engagement on the North Shore. She is challenging a 20-year incumbent Republican who has opposed women's reproductive rights and access to essential health services and who has received an A rating from the NRA. Her candidacy is rooted in her belief that "It's not enough to raise our children to be prepared for the world; we must also raise the world to be *worthy* of our children." <https://www.allisongustavson.com>

Tanya Neslusan, Candidate for MA State Representative, 1st Hampden District: Tanya is a lifelong resident of Central Massachusetts, and cares deeply about these communities and the people who reside here. She lives in Sturbridge with her wife and teenage son, serves as the President of the Sturbridge Regional Huddle and Secretary of the Sturbridge Democratic Town Committee, and is on the Planning Committee for the Worcester chapter of Showing Up for Racial Justice. As the daughter and wife of veterans, she believes strongly in the concept of service to country and community. She is an advocate for economic growth, education, and quality, affordable healthcare. She is running to unseat 13-year incumbent Republican Todd Smola. <https://tanyaforstaterep.org>

Maria Robinson, Write-in Candidate for MA State Representative, 6th Middlesex District: Maria is a nationally recognized clean energy policy expert and advocate, who has spent the last decade helping state policymakers and public officials throughout the country to address climate change through renewable energy and energy efficiency policies. Through this work and her work as a former Town Meeting Member, she realizes how government can make a major difference in people's lives. She is a foster mother of two who cares deeply about protecting our children, which includes a focus on education policy, cybersecurity, affordable housing, and providing economic opportunities to working families. She is running to represent ALL of Framingham's residents. Maria is running in an open race and hopes to continue the legacy of former state representative Chris Walsh. www.VoteMariaRobinson.com