Feb. 12, 2024

Denise Garlick R.N.

State Representative

Needham – Medfield – Dover

A Note from Denise

Dear Friends and Neighbors of Needham, Dover and Medfield,

As I deliver my Annual "Representative's Report to the Community" in Needham, I am sharing news that I will not be seeking re-election but moving forward to a new chapter in my life.

The current session spans January 4, 2023 to December 31, 2024. I will continue to work hard to listen, learn and lean into legislative and budget processes for solutions to the many challenges facing our communities and Commonwealth. Our District, which will vote in record numbers in a Presidential election in November, will have the opportunity over the next 7 months to meet candidates and choose our new State Representative.

I am humbled by the great responsibility to represent all the people of all ages and abilities in Needham, Dover and Medfield.

Our shared issues and concerns regarding education, public health and healthcare, vulnerable populations including older adults and children in the state's care, the mental health crisis, the challenge of substance use disorders and recovery and the need for access to affordable quality early education, have informed my work at every step as a member of the Legislature, as the former Chair of Third Reading, former Vice Chair of Ways and Means, former Chair of the Joint Committee on Elder Affairs, former Chair of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery and as the current Chair of the Joint Committee on Education.

Additionally, reflecting the many individuals and families in our District, I presently serve as the elected Chair of the permanent funded Commission on the Status of Persons with Disabilities.

With my colleagues, I have helped to enact important, and at times, historic, legislation and meaningful positive budget impacts.

I appreciate each of you for your courage, candor and continued conversations in the belief that good government can and does make a difference. I am grateful for your support and many friendships.

I continue to look forward to this year and working with all of you, all my colleagues in the Legislature, the Governor and Lieutenant Governor and members of their team and joining in partnership with Town leaders; elected and volunteer, staff, community and civic organizations and local businesses.

There will be a time for reflection and a party (!) as the year ends, but for now, the work continues.

Yours in Service,
Denise

State Representative
13th Norfolk District