



Office of
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Representative Kane appointed to Women's Rights History Trail Task Force

BOSTON – House Minority Leader Bradley H. Jones, Jr. (R-North Reading) has appointed State Representative Hannah Kane (R-Shrewsbury) to serve as a member of the newly-created Women's Rights History Trail Task Force.

Established under Chapter 76 of the Acts of 2022, which was signed into law on May 26, the task force will be responsible for developing recommendations for specific sites, properties and attractions to be included in the Commonwealth's Women's Rights History Trail Program, which was also created under the same Act.

Sponsored by Representatives Kane, Carolyn Dykema (D-Holliston) and Danielle Gregoire (D-Marlborough), the Women's Rights History Trail bill was initially filed during the 2019-2020 legislative session and was engrossed by the House as both a stand-alone bill and as part of a larger Economic Development Bond Bill, but never acted on by the Senate. A similar bill was filed during the 2017-2018 legislative session by the late Representative Gail Cariddi (D-North Adams).

"Hannah has been a driving force behind the creation of a Women's Rights History Trail that will highlight the important role women have played throughout our state's and our nation's history in the fight for equal rights," said Representative Jones. "As such, she is ideally suited to help the task force finalize the details that will make the trail a reality."

The enabling legislation requires the task force to consider sites that "are historically and thematically associated with the fight for women's rights and women's suffrage, including the contributions of women veterans; are geographically diverse; and commemorate individuals who reflect racial, ethnic, cultural and economic diversity." The task force will also make recommendations to increase the representation of women and women artists in the works of art displayed at the State House.

The task force is scheduled to submit its findings by March 1, 2023.

Kane is one of eight legislators serving on the 16-member task force, including the chairs of the Joint Committee on Travel and Tourism and the chairs of the Massachusetts Caucus of Women Legislators. Other members of the task force include the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism; the Secretary of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT); the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women and a representative selected by the organization; one member appointed by the Commissioner of Veterans' Services to represent the interests of women veterans; one member appointed by the art commission for the State House; an expert in women's history who works at a Massachusetts college or university; and a representative of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

First elected to the House of Representatives in 2015, Kane represents the Eleventh Worcester District, which is comprised of the town of Shrewsbury and precincts 4 and 5 in Westborough.

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