

NEW YORK STATE SENATOR Samra G. Brouk

## Senator Samra Brouk Committee Assignments

SAMRA G. BROUK January 7, 2021

## ISSUE: SENATE COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

**ALBANY, NY** - On the first day of the 2021 state legislative session, Senator Samra Brouk (SD-55) announced her Senate committee assignments, which include areas of local priority. The freshman Senator has been appointed Chair of the Senate Mental Health Committee, and will serve on the Committees of Health, Education, Aging, Elections, Women's Issues, and Alcoholism and Substance Abuse. Senator Brouk was sworn in along with her colleagues by Lt. Governor and President of the NYS Senate Kathy Hochul, during the first legislative session today. A virtual district-wide ceremony is scheduled for January 16, timed to commemorate the Senator's swearing-in and honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

"Looking ahead to the 2021 session, my top priority is a just recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. We know that this pandemic has not affected people equally. We must support our healthcare workers while working to improve our healthcare system; fight proposed cuts to school funding; and ensure that our social safety net protects the people hit hardest by this pandemic" said Senator Brouk. "We need to ensure that people who are at risk because of job loss, health problems, food insecurity, and the threat of eviction are protected."

Senator Brouk will serve as a much-needed voice for the Rochester area in the Democratic Majority Conference. "I am honored to accept the position as Chair of the Mental Health Committee-- especially in light of the ways the isolation of COVID-19 has raised fear and anxiety levels for people of all ages. Public health solutions to help address our mental health needs will be among my top legislative priorities," said Senator Brouk. "My committee assignments represent areas of significant importance to everyone across the 55th Senate District -- from the city of Rochester, to our suburban communities and into the more rural parts of Ontario County. This year has shown just how compassionate the 55th District is. We've seen people stepping up to support their friends, neighbors, and even strangers. I promise to fight for that same care and compassion from our state government."

New York Senator Samra Brouk represents the incredibly diverse 55th Senate District, stretching from the shores of Lake Ontario, through Rochester's Neighborhood of the Arts, and south to the Finger Lakes wine country. It includes the towns of Victor, East Bloomfield, West Bloomfield, Richmond, Bristol, South Bristol, Canadice, and Naples in Ontario County and the towns of Rush, Mendon, Pittsford, Perinton, Penfield, East Rochester, and Irondequoit, plus the east side of the City of Rochester in Monroe County. Senator Brouk serves as the Chair of the Mental Health Committee and sits on Health, Education, Elections, Aging, Women's Issues, and Alcoholism and Substance Abuse committees