



## REPRESENTATIVE VICKI DOUDERA



March 28, 2024

Greetings!

Happy Spring!

With April just around the corner, tax filing season is in full swing – and thousands of Mainers will soon be getting an extra payday through tax returns or [unclaimed property filings](#).

In the Legislature, delivering meaningful tax relief for Maine families has been one of my top priorities. Recently, legislative Democrats have worked to provide hundreds of millions of dollars in tax relief to Mainers who need it, often against Republican opposition.

Collectively, the measures we've passed will provide \$285 million back to Maine people in this year alone, and that number is projected to grow to an estimated \$750 million in the next two years.

In 2023, we created a \$300 state child tax credit, increased the annual income tax pension deduction from \$30,000 to \$35,000 and increased the [Property Tax Fairness Credit](#) for those 65 or older from \$1,500 to \$2,000, among other initiatives. We're also maintaining Municipal Revenue Sharing at 5% and meeting our commitment to fund 55% of public education costs, lowering the property tax burden on taxpayers.

While Republicans demand income tax cuts that would only benefit the wealthiest Mainers, Democrats in the State House are committed to creating an economy that works for all. I will always advocate for policies that invest in Maine people and put money directly back into the pockets of working families and older folks on fixed incomes.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me if you have any ideas, questions or concerns.



Sincerely,

Vicki

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## IN THE NEWS

There has been much activity recently around addressing gun violence in Maine and safety measures in recent weeks. [This local article](#) explains more about a measure I have sponsored this session to reduce firearm suicide deaths.

[Another recent news piece](#) features a press conference in the State House, more information about my bill and other measures recently introduced to address gun violence. I am confident that we will make meaningful reforms this year.

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## AT THE STATE HOUSE



I spoke recently at a State House rally for a safer Maine held by House Democrats. I addressed the importance of enacting meaningful gun safety reform and public health measures this session, both in response to the recent mass shooting in Lewiston and ongoing gun-related violence, including suicide, homicide and violent crime, and domestic abuse.



## NEIGHBORS AT THE STATE HOUSE



Camden and Rockport residents have been brightening my days at the State House! Marcia Dietrich received a legislative sentiment for her dedication to our school boards, Rick Rector was present for Non-Profit Day, Parker Gassett answered questions about Maine Sea Grant, and registered dietician Eileen Molloy spoke to us at a lunch and learn about the important work those in her field do for Maine.

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## TAX FILING RESOURCES AND UNCLAIMED PROPERTY

There are many resources available to help eligible Mainers file their taxes for free. Among them is [CA\\$H Maine](#), a collaboration of organizations across the state that work together to provide free tax preparation and other financial services for those who meet income requirements.

Maine's [unclaimed property](#) list includes money that belongs to Mainers but is being held

by the State Treasurer's Office because it couldn't be returned, including bank balances from old accounts, overpaid bills, uncashed checks and more. You can easily search the list for yourself or a family member and claim any property that is rightfully yours.

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## CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

March is Women's History Month, a time to celebrate and honor the countless women with exceptional courage, strength and leadership who paved the way for this generation of leaders, and who stand beside us now.

I'm proud to serve alongside so many incredible women in the Legislature, and I'm committed to continuing to fight for greater equality in all my work.

Earlier this month, the House passed a resolution recognizing March 8 as International Women's Day. You can read the full text online [here](#).

