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State Senate, Norfolk, Bristol & Middlesex

Includes Natick, Wayland, Sherborn, Wellesley, Millis and Franklin

Sara Orozco, Democrat

Housing in the Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex district comes in many forms. From established older neighborhoods to brand new subdivisions, homeless shelters to multi-million dollar real estate, the needs and circumstances of housing in the district vary dramatically. Decent and affordable housing is a basic human need, vital to strong families and communities.

It is in our long-term best interest to help low income workers and recent graduates plant their roots in the Commonwealth. Public and private entities should aggressively promote the "SoftSecond" program through the Massachusetts Housing Partnership which offers low and moderate income first-time buyers a fixed interest rate with a down payment as low as 3 percent, no points and no PMI.

Additionally, the chronic shortage of affordable rentals calls for innovative and effective solutions, promoting the production of new housing along smart growth lines, the preservation of so-called expiring use units, and the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program.

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