

METRO

In Brief

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MARYLAND

Montgomery Lawmaker No. 2 in Senate

The president of the Maryland Senate has promoted Sen. Ida G. Ruben (D) to the position of president pro tem, making her the first Montgomery County legislator to rise to that leadership post in more than a century.

With the assignment, Ruben becomes the second-ranking senator and will be responsible for presiding over the Senate in the president's absence. "This position will provide her with a platform to become the voice and conscience of the Senate and an advocate for fairness and inclusiveness in Maryland," said Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr. (D-Prince George's).

Ruben replaces Sen. Norman R. Stone Jr. (D-Baltimore County) as president pro tem. Stone, a 33-year Senate veteran, will become president pro tem emeritus, a new position.