Office of
Representative Hannah E. Kane
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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CONTACT: Kerry Shea, 617-722-2810

Rep. Kane Urges FDA to Declare National HRT Patch Shortage

Rep. Kane joins state legislators from across the country calling for action to protect patient access

BOSTON – Representative Hannah Kane (R-Shrewsbury) has joined state legislators from across the country in urging the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to declare a national shortage of hormone replacement therapy (HRT) estradiol patches and act to protect patient access.

On October 23, 2026, WPLN Action submitted letters from participating states to the FDA and Members of Congress. Representative Kane was proud to be part of this important effort on behalf of the women of Massachusetts.

"For many women in Massachusetts, HRT patches are an essential medication. However, shortages have left too many women unable to fill their prescriptions and manage symptoms of perimenopause or menopause. I encourage the FDA to take action to address the HRT shortage and ensure women can access the medicine they need," said Representative Kane.

Estradiol, a form of estrogen, is used in HRT patches to treat menopause symptoms such as hot flashes and night sweats. Certain hormone therapies are also approved to prevent bone loss. When patients can't get their prescribed patches, treatment is disrupted and they may be pushed toward alternatives that aren't appropriate, affordable, or readily available.

Demand for estradiol patches has climbed since the FDA revised longstanding boxed warnings for menopausal hormone therapy, straining supply. In September 2026, the FDA acknowledged reports that patients were struggling to get their usual patches and said it was working with manufacturers to increase supply.
The letter calls on the FDA to:

- Formally designate transdermal estradiol patches as a national drug shortage.
- Work directly with manufacturers to identify production bottlenecks and ways to increase capacity.
- Use all available authorities to ease supply disruptions and protect patient access.

About WPLN Action
WPLN Action is a national (501)(c)(4) nonprofit working with center-right women state elected officials to elevate their leadership.

Additional Information:

- FDA Update on Estradiol Transdermal Patch Availability: https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-alerts-and-statements/fda-update-estradiol-transdermal-patch-availability

- FDA Announcement on Labeling Changes for Menopausal Hormone Therapy Products: https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-approves-labeling-changes-menopausal-hormone-therapy-products

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