

Office of **Representative Hannah E. Kane** Commonwealth of Massachusetts

*For Immediate Release* Contact: Erin Ryan, 617-722-2430, <u>Erin.Ryan@mahouse.gov</u> October 25, 2016

## Representative Hannah Kane named to special commission on local and regional public health

**BOSTON** – House Minority Leader Bradley H. Jones, Jr. (R-North Reading) has appointed Representative Hannah Kane (R-Shrewsbury) to serve as his designee on the special commission on local and regional public health. The commission was created through legislation signed into law recently by Governor Charlie Baker.

As a member of the special commission, Representative Kane will help assess the effectiveness and efficiency of municipal and regional public health systems in Massachusetts. The commission will file a report by July 31, 2017 containing recommendations for strengthening the delivery of public health services and preventive measures at the local and regional level.

"Representative Kane has done a tremendous job as a member of the Joint Committee on Public Health, and I am confident she will bring a wealth of information and insight to the special commission as it works to develop ways to improve the delivery of public health services in Massachusetts," said Representative Jones.

Representative Kane is one of four state legislators serving on the 25-member commission, which is being chaired by Public Health Commissioner Monica Bharel. The commission also includes a representative of the Massachusetts Municipal Association and several members representing public health sector organizations from around the state.

"I am honored and excited to serve on this commission as I have a keen interest and some local insight given the Town of Shrewsbury's experience and success in a regionalized public health model partnership with the City of Worcester and neighboring towns," stated Representative Kane.

In carrying out its research, the commission will examine the capacity of local and regional public health authorities in comparison to national public health standards and recommendations, while also evaluating existing regional collaboration and various service delivery models. The commission will also look at existing municipal and state resources for local health; educational

standards, credentialing and training issues for both the current and future public health workforce; and ways to strengthen the reporting, gathering and analysis of public health data.

Representative Kane represents the 11<sup>th</sup> Worcester District, which is comprised of the town of Shrewsbury and Precincts 4 and 5 in Westborough. In addition to the Joint Committee on Public Health, Representative Kane also currently serves as a member of the Joint Committee on Transportation, the House Committee on Personnel & Administration and the House Committee on Redistricting.

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