

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

For Immediate Release

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Rep. Kane appointed to Marijuana Policy Committee

BOSTON – House Minority Leader Bradley H. Jones, Jr. (R-North Reading) is pleased to announce that he has appointed Representative Hannah Kane (R-Shrewsbury) as the Ranking Minority Member to the newly created Joint Committee on Marijuana Policy for the 2017-2018 legislative session.

With the passage of the 2016 ballot question legalizing recreational marijuana in Massachusetts, the House and Senate recently created a standing committee to focus exclusively on issues associated with the new law. Dozens of marijuana-related bills have been filed this session regarding local control of marijuana dispensaries, the marketing and packaging of edibles containing marijuana, and ways to combat drugged driving.

"There are still many lingering public health and safety concerns surrounding marijuana legalization that need to be addressed as the new law is implemented in Massachusetts," said Representative Jones. "Representative Kane has a clear understanding of these issues, and I believe she will make an excellent addition to this new committee as it works to develop responsible public policies regarding legalization."

Representative Kane campaigned against last year's recreational marijuana legalization ballot question believing that important public health, public safety and local control issues were not sufficiently addressed. She also serves on Worcester County District Attorney Joe Early's Opioid Task Force, as a State Director of the national Women in Government Foundation where she is a member of the Mental Health and Substance Use Task Force, and she serves locally on the Shrewsbury Coalition for Addiction Prevention and Education (SCAPE).

In addition to serving on the Marijuana Policy Committee, Representative Kane has also been reappointed to the Joint Committee on Public Health where she will serve as the Ranking Minority Member, and to the Joint Committee on Transportation.

"I am honored to be appointed by the Minority Leader to these three committees for the upcoming legislative session and I look forward to working productively with my colleagues in the legislature to advance legislation that serves the best interests of the Commonwealth and is sound and prudent public policy," said Representative Kane.

Representative Kane represents the 11th Worcester District, which is comprised of the town of Shrewsbury and Precincts 4 and 5 in Westborough.