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3 Title: Fentanyl Patch for Patch Exchange Program  
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5 Introduced by: David Whalen, MD, MPA, for the Kent County Delegation  
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7 Original Authors: Cara Poland, MD, and Gerald Lee, MD  
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9 Referred To: Reference Committee B  
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11 House Action: **DISAPPROVED**  
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14 Whereas, fentanyl is a powerful synthetic opioid analgesic that is 50-100 times more potent  
15 than morphine, and  
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17 Whereas, fentanyl is a Schedule II prescription drug, and it is typically used to treat patients  
18 with severe pain or to manage pain after surgery, and  
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20 Whereas, approximately 28,400 people died from overdose of synthetic opiates, other than  
21 methadone, in 2017 alone, and  
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23 Whereas, Michigan’s overdose rate of 21.2 per 100,000 is above the national average of 14.6  
24 per 100,000, and  
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26 Whereas, synthetic opioids, mainly fentanyl, overdose deaths have increased in Michigan  
27 from 72 in 2012 to 1,368 in 2017, and  
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29 Whereas, Ontario, Canada, has instituted a successful patch for patch exchange program  
30 (P4P Program); therefore be it  
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32 RESOLVED: That MSMS propose a fentanyl “patch for patch” exchange program in the state  
33 of Michigan that includes the following provisions:

- 34 1. Require a new fentanyl prescription to be labeled as a first prescription (this will result in a  
35 one-time return of 9/10 patches);
- 36 2. Require old patches to be stuck to a sheet of paper and returned to the pharmacy when  
37 getting a new prescription;
- 38 3. Require the pharmacy receiving a prescription for fentanyl patches to contact the prescriber  
39 if the pharmacy does not collect all used patches or collects fewer than the quantity to be  
40 dispensed;
- 41 4. Require the pharmacist and prescriber to jointly make an assessment, consider the  
42 circumstances, and determine the best course of action and the quantity to be dispensed;  
43 and,
- 44 5. Require pharmacies to properly store and then dispose of used patches; and be it further  
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46 RESOLVED: That MSMS seek legislation to implement a fentanyl “patch for patch” exchange  
47 program in Michigan.  
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49 WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: \$16,000 - \$32,000 for legislative advocacy.

**Relevant MSMS Policy:**

**Prescription Drug Abuse**

MSMS supports the following AMA position on "Curtailing Prescription Drug Abuse While Preserving Therapeutic Use – Recommendations for Drug Control Policy:"

"Our AMA (1) opposes expansion of multiple-copy prescription programs to additional states or classes of drugs because of their documented ineffectiveness in reducing prescription drug abuse, and their adverse effect on the availability of prescription medications for therapeutic use; (2) supports continued efforts to address the problems of prescription drug diversion and abuse through physician education, research activities, and efforts to assist state medical societies in developing proactive programs; and (3) encourages further research into development of reliable outcome indicators for assessing the effectiveness of measures proposed to reduce prescription drug abuse.

**Relevant AMA Policy:**

**Curtailing Prescription Drug Abuse While Preserving Therapeutic Use - Recommendations for Drug Control Policy H-95.979** (see language above)