

Menopause (Support and Services) Bill

[AS INTRODUCED]

CONTENTS

- 1 Exemption of HRT from NHS prescription charges: England
- 2 Menopause support and services
- 3 Extent, commencement and short title

[AS INTRODUCED]

A

B I L L

TO

Make provision about menopause support and services; to exempt hormone replacement therapy from National Health Service prescription charges; and for connected purposes.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen’s most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 Exemption of HRT from NHS prescription charges: England

- (1) In section 173 of the National Health Service Act 2006 (exemptions from general charging), after subsection (1)(b) insert—

“(ba) the supply of hormone replacement therapy (as defined in section 2(3) of the Menopause (Support and Services) Act 2021),”

5

- (2) In regulation 10 (exemptions: general) of the National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) Regulations 2015 (S.I. 2015/570), after paragraph (2) insert—

“(2A) No charge is payable under these Regulations in respect of the supply of hormone replacement therapy (as defined in section 2(3) of the Menopause (Support and Services) Act 2021).”

10

- (3) In this Act, “hormone replacement therapy” means a treatment of oestrogen, progestogen or both for the purposes of relieving the symptoms of menopause, however it is administered.

15

2 Menopause support and services

- (1) The Secretary of State must, within one year of the day on which this Act comes into force, lay before Parliament a United Kingdom-wide cross-Government strategy on menopause support and services.

- (2) In formulating the strategy the Secretary of State must consider—

20

- (a) the education of young people about the menopause;
- (b) the role of public education and communication in supporting perimenopausal and post-menopausal women and raising awareness of the menopause and its effects;

- (c) training for general practitioners and in medical schools on the diagnosis and treatment of symptoms of the menopause, including but not limited to osteoporosis and mental health problems;
 - (d) the provision of information for general practitioners on the benefits of hormone replacement therapy and other treatments for symptoms of the menopause; 5
 - (e) workplace policies, including on flexible working hours, relaxed uniform policies and adaptations to the working environment, designed to support women to continue to work through the menopause;
 - (f) promoting peer support groups for perimenopausal and post-menopausal women. 10
- (3) The Secretary may lay before Parliament a revised version of the strategy.
- (4) In preparing a strategy under subsection (1) or (3), the Secretary of State must consult—
- (a) the Welsh Ministers, 15
 - (b) the Scottish Ministers, and
 - (c) the relevant Northern Ireland departments.

3 Extent, commencement and short title

- (1) Section 1 extends to England and Wales only.
- (2) Section 2 and this section extend to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. 20
- (3) This Act comes into force at the end of the period of two months beginning with the day on which it is passed.
- (4) This Act may be cited as the Menopause (Support and Services) Act 2021.

Menopause (Support and Services) Bill

[AS INTRODUCED]

A

B I L L

TO

Make provision about menopause support and services; to exempt hormone replacement therapy from National Health Service prescription charges; and for connected purposes.

*Presented by Carolyn Harris
supported by Judith Cummins, Peter Dowd,
Rosie Duffield, Nick Smith, Karin Smyth,
Jim Shannon, Tracey Crouch, Jackie Doyle-Price,
Tim Loughton and Caroline Nokes.*

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be
Printed, 16th June 2021.

© Parliamentary copyright House of Commons 2021

*This publication may be reproduced under the terms of the Open Parliament Licence, which is published at
www.parliament.uk/site-information/copyright*

PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS