

HB 1467 -- NEEDLE EXCHANGE PILOT PROGRAM

SPONSOR: Stevens (46)

This bill requires the Department of Health and Senior Services to establish a sterile needle and exchange pilot program that will offer free exchange of clean and unused hypodermic needles and syringes for used needles and syringes as a means to prevent the spread of disease through intravenous drug use. The program must also provide educational materials, counseling, and testing. The program shall have at least one exchange site in each of Missouri's eight Congressional districts. No state funds shall be used to implement this program, but the department may accept other funds to implement the program. The program will collect data to report to the General Assembly.

The possession, distribution, or exchange of needles or syringes as part of the pilot program shall not be a violation of provisions of law prohibiting the distribution, delivery, sale, or manufacture of drug paraphernalia.

This bill is similar to HB 88 (2017) and HB 2780 (2016).