LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6345
BILL NUMBER: SB 91

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 26, 2026
BILL AMENDED: Jan 26, 2026

SUBJECT: Syringe Exchange Program.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Crider
FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: 2nd Reading - 1st House

FUNDS AFFECTED: GENERAL
DEDICATED
X FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill allows the legislative body of the municipality of the executive body of the county to impose a syringe exchange ratio requirement on a syringe exchange program that operates within the jurisdiction of the municipality or county. It amends the duties of a qualified entity that operates a Program and prohibits a qualified entity that operates a Program from providing chemical reagents or precursors.

This bill also extends the expiration of the Syringe Exchange Program to July 1, 2036.

Effective Date: Upon passage.

Explanation of State Expenditures: An extension of the Syringe Exchange Program to July 1, 2036, will increase workload and associated costs for the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) beyond the current expiration date of July 1, 2026. A federal grant covers all program-related costs at the IDOH.

Additional information: As of January 2025, eight Indiana counties operated a Syringe Exchange Program. Each program must annually register and file quarterly reports with IDOH. IDOH prepares and submits an annual report to the Governor and the General Assembly concerning the Syringe Exchange Program. IDOH also provides technical assistance and provides grants to locally approved programs from a federal grant. [Federal and state funds may not be used in the purchase of syringes, but may be used for staffing and harm reduction components of the programs.]

Syringe exchange programs are public health programs open to anyone in need of new injecting equipment including those with diabetes and other conditions requiring syringes. Such programs may operate only in a county or municipality under certain circumstances.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: (Revised) Participating entities may experience an increase in workload and supply costs as a result of the new Program requirements as they will be required to:

- qccept syringes for proper disposal;
- provide safe syringe disposal containers as requested;
- maintain data concerning HIV and hepatitis C testing and treatment referrals; and
- maintain data concerning referrals to drug treatment programs that offer medication assisted treatment.

The bill also extending the Syringe Exchange Program beyond the current expiration date of July 1, 2026. Local health departments use local, federal, and philanthropic funding for Syringe Exchange Program expenses. Indiana code prohibits the use of state funds for the purchase of syringes or needles.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Indiana Department of Health.

Local Agencies Affected: Local health departments.

Information Sources: Rachel Swartwood, Indiana Department of Health; https://www.in.gov/health/hiv-std-viral-hepatitis/harm-reduction-and-syringe-service-programs; https://www.in.gov/health/hiv-std-viral-hepatitis/files/IDOH-HRP-SSP-Infographic-January-2025.pdf.

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