

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

**LS 6345**  
**BILL NUMBER: SB 91**

**NOTE PREPARED:** Feb 10, 2026  
**BILL AMENDED:** Feb 10, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Syringe Exchange Program.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Sen. Crider  
**FIRST SPONSOR:** Rep. Clere

**BILL STATUS:** CR Adopted - 2<sup>nd</sup> House

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**     **GENERAL**  
                              **DEDICATED**  
                              **X FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended) This bill amends the duties of a qualified entity that operates a syringe exchange program (Program) and establishes requirements for Program participation. It 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, 2028.

**Effective Date:** Upon passage.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** (Revised) An extension of the Syringe Exchange Program to July 1, 2028 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:

- accept syringes for proper disposal;
- provide safe syringe disposal containers as requested;

- maintain data concerning HIV and hepatitis C testing and treatment referrals;
- maintain data concerning referrals to drug treatment programs that offer medication assisted treatment; and
- verify identification of participants.

The bill may result in a decrease in participation of such Programs as it specifies that a participating individual must:

- be a resident of a county within the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority's (IHCDA) balance of state continuum of care region in which the qualified entity is located; and
- present valid identification.

The IHCDA's balance of state continuum of care region includes all Indiana counties except Marion.

The bill also extends 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;  
Samantha Spergel, Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority;  
<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>;  
<https://www.in.gov/ihcda/indiana-balance-of-state-continuum-of-care>.

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