

Submitter: Sarah Smith
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Early Childhood and Behavioral Health
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1573

Please oppose SB 1573.

I understand not wanting to have these next door to a school. But 2,000 feet? That could basically eliminate these services, especially in small town areas.

This policy would be hardest felt in rural communities. These areas may not have the populations to support a brick and mortar site but still deserve access to care.

Syringe Service programs strive to foster trust with people who are using drugs and this trust leads to increased connection to the health care system and to the drug treatment systems.

As syringe service programs are often the only means people have to safely dispose of their syringes, cutting off these programs could lead to an increase in syringe litter rather than less of it.

I urge this committee to please center evidence based public health into your thinking about this bill and vote no.