

Members of the House and Government Operations Committee,

I am writing to show my support for HB1516. I am a Washington County resident and do not feel comfortable having the county health department handing out drug paraphenalia to the citizens and children of this county. Further, I have serious concerns that the lack of oversight into the age and residence of individuals showing up to attain these supplies means it's an open door to anyone from any county or state to seek these supplies from Washington County. There is no credible proof that this measure in harm reduction protects more people than it puts in harm's way. There is strong reason to suspect this practice has actually increased the number of improperly disposed used needles scattered across our county where they can potentially injure someone. I am not supportive of government policies that may reduce harm to drug abusers while risking the wellbeing of other well-intentioned citizens.

This bill has my support because I am concerned for the children and the overreach into territory that should remain an area parents have oversight into. The state should not be dispersing these supplies to my child without my knowledge and consent. This behavior not only encourages drug use but encourages disobedience in the family home and a breach of trust between parents and their children. I strongly oppose.

Sincerely,

Danielle Lasher

Washington County Resident