

# **One Hundred Eighth Legislature - First Session - 2023**

## **Introducer's Statement of Intent**

### **LB307**

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**Chairperson: Senator Justin Wayne**

**Committee: Judiciary**

**Date of Hearing: February 09, 2023**

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 307 would allow local jurisdictions to authorize public or behavioral health programs to distribute hypodermic needles to reduce the spread of infectious diseases such as HIV. Such programs are known as Syringe Service Programs (SSPs). SSPs protect the public and first responders by facilitating the safe use and disposal of syringes; curb outbreak of disease; and encourage intravenous drug users to enter treatment.

The bill does not require any locality to adopt such program, but gives those who may see disease outbreaks the tools to address the problem where it exists.

The bill also adds the word "pharmacies" to the existing section that already allows pharmacists, pharmacist interns, and pharmacy techs to sell hypodermic needles and syringes for the purpose of reducing spread of infectious disease, to clarify that pharmacies do not face any legal liability for selling such syringes.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senator Megan Hunt**