

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

## **An Act To Reduce Morbidity and Mortality Related to Injected Drugs**

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

**Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1341, sub-§4** is enacted to read:

**4. Funding.** This subsection governs funding for hypodermic apparatus exchange programs certified pursuant to this section.

A. The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention shall allocate any funds appropriated for hypodermic apparatus exchange programs among programs based on rates of intravenous drug use and negative health outcomes related to drug use in the geographic area surrounding a program and the amount of services historically provided by the program, except that the center may award funds through a competitive grant process in order to facilitate the operation of programs in counties without programs.

B. Unless the use of funds to support a hypodermic apparatus exchange program is prohibited by the original funding source, the department may not prohibit funds it awards to an entity involved in HIV, viral hepatitis and substance abuse issues from being used to support a hypodermic apparatus exchange program as long as the services the program provides can reasonably be expected to contribute to the desired result identified when the funding is first made available.

**Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and allocations are made.

### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF (FORMERLY DHS)**

#### **Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention 0143**

Initiative: Appropriates funds for existing hypodermic apparatus exchange programs certified by the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>
All Other	\$0	\$50,000
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>

#### **Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention 0143**

Initiative: Appropriates funds to facilitate the growth of new hypodermic apparatus exchange programs certified by the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention in counties without a program.

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>
All Other	\$0	\$25,000
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GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$25,000
<b>HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF (FORMERLY DHS) DEPARTMENT TOTALS</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>
GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$75,000
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DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$75,000

## SUMMARY

This bill provides funding for existing and new hypodermic apparatus exchange programs certified by the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention. The center must allocate funds appropriated for existing hypodermic apparatus exchange programs among programs based on rates of intravenous drug use and negative health outcomes related to drug use in the geographic area surrounding a program and the amount of services historically provided by the program, except that funds awarded in order to facilitate the operation of programs in counties without a program may be awarded through a competitive grant process. It also provides that, unless the use of funds to support a hypodermic apparatus exchange program is prohibited by the original funding source, the department may not prohibit funds it awards to an entity involved in HIV, viral hepatitis and substance abuse issues from being used to support a hypodermic apparatus exchange program as long as the services the program provides can reasonably be expected to contribute to the desired result identified when the funding is first made available.