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This proposed legislation is not based in best medical practices for the health of our state. Limiting the access of sterile syringes threatens the health and wellbeing of not just our neighbors who inject drugs, but our community as a whole. Penobscot County currently has an outbreak of HIV among people who inject drugs; now is not the time to limit access to sterile syringes. This will only further force people to share and reuse contaminated needles and allow this outbreak to spread across the state. A needs-based model of syringe distribution has been shown to encourage one-time use of syringes and reduce bloodborne disease transmission. Even reusing your own syringe more than once can put a person at increased risk of injection site injury and infections. There are many reasons why a person may not be able to hang on to their used syringes to return to the needle exchange. But regardless of that reason, it shouldn't prohibit them from being able to access healthcare.