Florida House of Representatives - 2000 By Representative Hill

A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to the State Health Officer; amending s. 381.0038, F.S.; providing for the 3 State Health Officer to establish needle and 4 5 syringe exchange projects for drug users; providing project criteria; requiring a report; б 7 providing an effective date. 8 9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 10 11 Section 1. Subsection (4) is added to section 12 381.0038, Florida Statutes, to read: 13 381.0038 Education.--The Department of Health shall 14 establish a program to educate the public about the threat of acquired immune deficiency syndrome. 15 16 (4) The State Health Officer may establish harm-reduction sterile needle and syringe exchange projects 17 designed to combat HIV/AIDS transmission among injecting drug 18 19 users, their partners, and their children. 20 (a) Each project must meet the following criteria: The project area must have a program for preventing 21 1. 22 HIV transmission operating in the community, and the State 23 Health Officer must determine that an exchange project is 24 likely to be an effective component of that program. The project must provide referral to substance 25 2. 26 abuse treatment and to other appropriate health and social 27 services. 28 3. The project must provide education to participants 29 concerning the transmission of HIV and hepatitis B and C, and 30 prevention measures. 31

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The project must comply with established standards 4. for the disposal of hazardous medical waste. (b) A report evaluating the effectiveness of the projects shall be submitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, and the members of the appropriate substantive committees of the House and Senate by March 1, 2001. Exchange or possession of needles and syringes in (C) compliance with the procedures of the projects does not constitute a violation of s. 893.147. Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000. LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY Provides for the State Health Officer to establish needle and syringe exchange programs for drug users. Establishes guidelines for such projects and requires a report to the Legislature. 

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