**PURDUE STUDENT SENATE**

RESOLUTION 23-03

*“Purdue Student Government Stands With Syringe Services Program On or Near Campus”*

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Agenda Date(s): November, 15 2023

Recommendations:

Action(s):

President Pro Tempore: Gabriela Da Silva

Student Senate President: Andrew Askounis

Student Body President: Shye Robinson

*WHEREAS*, The possibility of the Tippecanoe County Health Department’s Syringe Services Program (SSP) expanding to West Lafayette has been discussed; and

*WHEREAS*, The current SSP in Lafayette (Gateway to Hope) has been widely successful since its establishment in 20171; and

*WHEREAS*, According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), SSPs are safe, effective, and cost-efficient, do not increase drug use or crime, and play an important role in preventing the spread of blood-borne infections[[1]](#footnote-0),2; and

*WHEREAS*, The SSP provides education, testing, access and disposal of sterile syringes and equipment, and access to Naloxone, ultimately resulting in harm reduction; and

*WHEREAS*, The success of SSPs has been widely researched in the last 30 years; and

*WHEREAS*, In 2017, Purdue Student Government Senate narrowly passed Resolution 17-05, “Purdue Student Government Stands Against Needle Exchange Program on Campus,” which states that there have been problems with discarded needles on the streets with no research to back up this claim; and

*WHEREAS,* The CDC states that in areas with an SSP, first responders and the community have reduced the number of needlestick injuries4; and

*WHEREAS,* According to a study looking at the number of found syringes compared in communities with SSPs to those without, there was an eight-fold increase in the number of syringes found in walkthroughs of the communities without SSPs5; and

*WHEREAS,* The Ohio State College of Pharmacy: Prescription Drug Use Study looked at 15 different colleges, and it was reported that 5% of college students have used heroin6, therefore having an SSP closer to Purdue’s Campus can aid in harm reduction on campus

**Therefore, be it RESOLVED,**

That Purdue Student Government supports the introduction of a syringe services program on or near Purdue’s campus.

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Student Body President Student Senate President

1. 1. <https://www.tippecanoe.in.gov/862/Gateway-to-Hope--Syringe-Services-Progra>
   2. .<https://www.cdc.gov/ssp/index.html#:~:text=Nearly%20thirty%20years%20of%20research,hepatitis%2C%20HIV%20and%20other%20infections>.
   3. <https://nida.nih.gov/research-topics/syringe-services-programs>
   4. <https://www.cdc.gov/ssp/syringe-services-programs-summary.html>
   5. Tookes HE, Kral AH, Wenger LD, et al. A comparison of syringe disposal practices among injection drug users in a city with versus a city without needle and syringe programs. *Drug Alcohol Depend*. 2012;123(1-3):255-259. doi:10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2011.12.001
   6. <https://pharmacy.osu.edu/college-prescription-drug-study>

   [↑](#footnote-ref-0)