

Set Hearing for September 6, 2005
Disease Prevention and Demonstration Project
Agenda: 8/16/05

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SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Agenda Number: 8/2/05
Prepared on: 8/2/05
Department Name: Public Health
Department No.: 041
Agenda Date: 8/16/05
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time: 30 minutes on 9/6/05
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Elliot Schulman, MD, MPH, Director and Health Officer
Public Health Department

STAFF CONTACT: Michele Mickiewicz
681-5446

SUBJECT: Set hearing on Disease Prevention Demonstration Project

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

Set a hearing for September 6, 2005 to receive an update from the Public Health Department on issues related to the implementation of a local Disease Prevention Demonstration Project in accordance with Senate Bill 1159 (Vasconcellos).

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan: The recommendation(s) are primarily aligned with Goal No. 2. A Safe and Healthy Community in Which to Live, Work, and Visit.

Executive Summary and Discussion: On August 31, 2004, Governor Schwarzenegger signed Senate Bill 1159 enacting the Disease Prevention Demonstration Project to evaluate the long-term desirability of authorizing pharmacists to sell or furnish 10 or fewer sterile needles and syringes, without a prescription. This pilot program, in conjunction with the Needle Exchange Program is an attempt to reduce the incidence of blood-borne infections including Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Hepatitis C virus (HCV) and Hepatitis B virus (HBV) related to injection drug use.

On March 22, 2005 the Board received and filed a report that reviewed the requirements of the program as set forth in the legislation. A public hearing was conducted on that date. The Board directed the Public Health Department staff to monitor support from pharmacies, law enforcement and the community for this Project and to report back to the Board of Supervisors.

Mandates and Service Levels: To be discussed at the September 6th hearing.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts: To be discussed at the September 6th hearing.

Special Instructions: None

Concurrence: None required