

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1701

Introduced by Assembly Member Chesbro

February 1, 2010

An act to amend Section 4145 of the Business and Professions Code, and to amend Section 11364 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to public health.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1701, as introduced, Chesbro. Hypodermic needles and syringes.

Existing law regulates the sale, possession, and disposal of hypodermic needles and syringes. Under existing law, a prescription is required to purchase a hypodermic needle or syringe for human use, except to administer adrenaline or insulin.

Existing law, until December 31, 2010, authorizes a city or county to authorize a licensed pharmacist to sell or furnish 10 or fewer hypodermic needles or syringes to a person for human use without a prescription if the pharmacy is registered with a local health department in the Disease Prevention Demonstration Project. Existing law prohibits the possession and sale of drug paraphernalia, but until December 31, 2010, allows a person, if authorized by a city or county, to possess 10 or fewer hypodermic needles or syringes if acquired through an authorized source.

This bill would delete the December 31, 2010, end dates for these authorizations and would thereby reestablish these authorizations indefinitely.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 4145 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4145. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a pharmacist or physician may, without a prescription or a permit, furnish hypodermic needles and syringes for human use, and a person may, without a prescription or license, obtain hypodermic needles and syringes from a pharmacist or physician for human use, if one of the following requirements is met:

(1) The person is known to the furnisher and the furnisher has previously been provided a prescription or other proof of a legitimate medical need requiring a hypodermic needle or syringe to administer a medicine or treatment.

(2) Pursuant to authorization by a county, with respect to all of the territory within the county, or a city, with respect to the territory within the city, ~~for the period commencing January 1, 2005, and ending December 31, 2010,~~ a pharmacist may furnish or sell 10 or fewer hypodermic needles or syringes at any one time to a person 18 years of age or older if the pharmacist works for a pharmacy that is registered for the Disease Prevention Demonstration Project pursuant to Chapter 13.5 (commencing with Section 121285) of Part 4 of Division 105 of the Health and Safety Code and the pharmacy complies with the provisions of that chapter.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a pharmacist, veterinarian, or person licensed pursuant to Section 4141 may, without a prescription or license, furnish hypodermic needles and syringes for use on animals, and a person may, without a prescription or license, obtain hypodermic needles and syringes from a pharmacist, veterinarian, or person licensed pursuant to Section 4141 for use on animals, providing that no needle or syringe shall be furnished to a person who is unknown to the furnisher and unable to properly establish his or her identity.

SEC. 2. Section 11364 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

11364. (a) It is unlawful to possess an opium pipe or any device, contrivance, instrument, or paraphernalia used for unlawfully injecting or smoking (1) a controlled substance specified in subdivision (b), (c), or (e), or paragraph (1) of subdivision (f)

1 of Section 11054, specified in paragraph (14), (15), or (20) of
2 subdivision (d) of Section 11054, specified in subdivision (b) or
3 (c) of Section 11055, or specified in paragraph (2) of subdivision
4 (d) of Section 11055, or (2) a controlled substance which is a
5 narcotic drug classified in Schedule III, IV, or V.

6 (b) This section shall not apply to hypodermic needles or
7 syringes that have been containerized for safe disposal in a
8 container that meets state and federal standards for disposal of
9 sharps waste.

10 (c) Pursuant to authorization by a county, with respect to all of
11 the territory within the county, or a city, with respect to the territory
12 within in the city, ~~for the period commencing January 1, 2005, and~~
13 ~~ending December 31, 2010;~~ subdivision (a) shall not apply to the
14 possession solely for personal use of 10 or fewer hypodermic
15 needles or syringes if acquired from an authorized source.