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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Knauer DATE TYPED: 2/26/01 HB 812  
 SHORT TITLE: Permit Sale of Hypodermic Syringes SB \_\_\_\_\_  
 ANALYST: Esquibel

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY01	FY02	FY01	FY02		
N/A					

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates SB320

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Attorney General (AG)  
 NM Board of Pharmacy  
 NM Health Policy Commission (HPC)  
 Department of Health (DOH)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 812 amends the Controlled Substances Act to allow the sale of hypodermic syringes by licensed pharmacists. Currently, any person who sells a hypodermic needle to someone who might reasonably use the syringe for illegal purposes, is subject to prosecution.

#### Significant Issues

Use of sterile syringes by injection drug users limits the spread of HIV, hepatitis and sexually-transmitted diseases.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

House Bill 2 et all currently contains an increase of \$150.0 in general fund to enhance the needle exchange program.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

DOH indicates it would provide educational materials to pharmacists who would choose to participate in selling syringes, as well as providing bio-hazardous waste containers and disposal services to local pharmacists.

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

The bill amends the law to allow pharmacists to sell syringes. However, the average person may still be charged for possession of a syringe as paraphernalia under the law.

**POSSIBLE QUESTIONS**

Would a prescription be required to allow pharmacists to sell syringes?

RAE/njw