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**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LOCAL REGULATION OF
STERILE NEEDLE EXCHANGE PROGRAMS**

The Board of Commissioners of Haywood County resolve as follows:

WHEREAS the issue of the spread of hypodermic needle litter in the public spaces of Haywood County is a continuing matter of public concern; and

WHEREAS state law specifically authorizes the establishment and operation of programs to combat the transmission of communicable diseases using, as part of those programs, the exchange of used hypodermic needles for sterile needles, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 90-113.27; and

WHEREAS the citizens of Haywood County, acting through their local governments, have expressed their desire to reduce used-needle litter by potentially regulating the operation of needle-exchange programs; and

WHEREAS such local regulations could potentially require the establishment of "sharps" containers, regulate the locations of the distribution of needles and deal with similar issues.

NOW, therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Commissioners of Haywood County expresses its support for authorizing legislation from the General Assembly of North Carolina for the local regulation of programs that involve the distribution, collection and exchange of hypodermic needles.

Adopted this the 3rd day of October, 2022.

L. Kevin Ensley, Chairman
Haywood County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Amy L. Stevens Clerk to the Board
Haywood County Board of Commissioners