

STATE OF INDIANA

BEFORE THE BOARD OF CLARK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ORDINANCE NO. 19 -2015

**AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING CLARK COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER
RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING A NEEDLE EXCHANGE PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, this Board of Commissioners of Clark County, Indiana (hereinafter the "Board"), is the executive body of Clark County government pursuant to the provisions of Ind. Code § 36-2-2-2; and

WHEREAS, the State of Indiana recently enacted Indiana code 16-41-7.5 Communicable disease: Syringe Exchange Program as a measure to combat the recent influx of Hepatitis C and HIV cases within Southern Indiana; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was conducted on July 30, 2015 at which time public testimony was heard; and

WHEREAS, at the July 30, 2015 hearing, the local health officer, Dr. Kevin Burke presented information and evidence regarding the seriousness of the Hepatitis C and HIV outbreak to Clark County and declared to this Board the following:

1. That there is an epidemic of Hepatitis C or HIV
2. That the primary mode of transmission of Hepatitis C or HIV in Clark county is through intravenous drug use and
3. That a syringe exchange program is medically appropriate as part of a comprehensive public health response; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of this Board, pursuant to Indiana Code 16-41-7.5 *et al* to operate a syringe exchange program.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE CLARK COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS, AS FOLLOWS:**

1. That in consideration of the public health of Clark County, Indiana, the Board does hereby adopt the declarations of Dr. Kevin Burke that:
 - a. there is an epidemic of Hepatitis C or HIV;
 - b. the primary mode of transmission of Hepatitis C or HIV in Clark county is through intravenous drug use; and

- c. That a syringe exchange program is medically appropriate as part of a comprehensive public health response.
- 2. That the State Health Commissioner be notified of this official action and a further request be made to the State Health Commissioner to declare a public health emergency as other measures employed concerning the epidemic have proven ineffective.
- 3. That upon declaration by the State Health Commissioner that a public health emergency exists for Clark County, that Clark County develop and operate a syringe exchange program in strict accordance with Indiana Code IC 16-41-7.5 *et. al.*

So Ordained this 13 Day of August 2015.

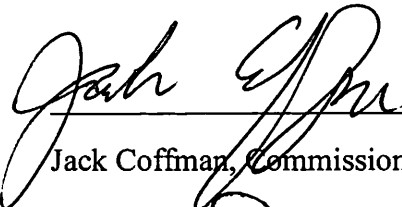
Members voting "NO":

Jack Coffman, Commissioner

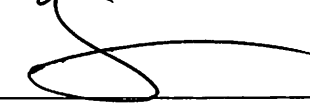
Rick Stephenson, Commissioner

Bryan Glover, Commissioner


Members voting "YES":



Jack Coffman, Commissioner




Rick Stephenson, Commissioner



Bryan Glover, Commissioner

Attested by:



R. Monty Snelling, Clark County Auditor