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California State Senate

SENATOR
KELLY SEYARTO

THIRTY-SECOND SENATE DISTRICT



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September 10, 2025

Governor Gavin Newsom
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Veto Request – Assembly Bill 309

Dear Governor Newsom:

I am writing today to respectfully request that you veto Assembly Bill 309.

This bill, if implemented, will eliminate the January 1, 2026 sunset on current law and permanently authorize physicians and pharmacists to furnish hypodermic needles and syringes to adults without a prescription, and likewise allow adults to obtain them solely for personal use.

While the stated goal is disease prevention, California is now confronted with a devastating opioid and fentanyl crisis that presents new and urgent challenges. Local law enforcement, district attorneys, and community leaders have warned that permanent, unrestricted access to nonprescription syringes will result in more discarded needles in neighborhoods, parks, and public areas. This increases risks for children and families, strains law enforcement, and perpetuates substance use disorders rather than addressing them.

AB-309 removes safeguards and shifts costs to local governments while doing little to provide meaningful treatment or recovery options. Instead of permanently expanding access, California needs a balanced, collaborative approach that prevents disease while also prioritizing public safety, reducing environmental hazards, and ensuring accountability.

I respectfully request that you veto AB-309, and I thank you for your time to read this letter. Please feel free to contact me with any questions at (916) 651-4032.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kelly Seyarto".

Kelly Seyarto
Senate District 32