



March 28, 2023

*Megan Williams, DNP,
FNP-C, FAANP
Interim CEO*

The Honorable Marie Pinkney
411 Legislative Ave.
Dover, DE 19901

RE: Support for Senate Bill 52, Needle Exchange

Dear Senator Pinkney,

*Nemours Children's
Health
Mark Mumford,
Executive Vice President
Chief Executive,
Nemours Delaware
Valley Operations*

*Bayhealth
Terry Murphy,
President & CEO*

*Beebe Healthcare
David A. Tam,
MD, MBA,
President & CEO*

*ChristianaCare
Janice E. Nevin,
MD, MPH
President & CEO*

*TidalHealth Nanticoke
Penny Short, MSM, BSN,
RN
President & CEO*

*Saint Francis Hospital
Christopher Cullom,
MSHA, MBA
President, Saint Francis
Hospital*

*Delaware Healthcare
Association
Megan Williams, DNP,
FNP-C, FAANP
Interim CEO*

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Senate Bill 52. The Delaware Healthcare Association supports this bill.

SB 52 directs the State's current needle exchange program to take a needs-based approach instead of the current 1-for-1 exchange requirement. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), a needs-based approach to syringe distribution has been shown to prevent new HIV and viral hepatitis infections. The CDC also states that needs-based approaches are safer than "one-for-one" exchange programs because they reduce high-risk injection behaviors that may lead to the spread of HIV and other blood-borne infections. DHA supports SB 52 because our members agree this approach reduces risk and transmission of infectious disease in our communities.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment. DHA supports SB 52 and looks forward to working with you and the members of the General Assembly to advance this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Megan Williams'.

Megan Williams, DNP, FNP-C, FAANP
Interim CEO

DHA represents hospitals and health care delivery systems in Delaware and provides policy and advocacy leadership in creating an excellent environment to support our members in helping every Delawarean to be as healthy as they can be.