



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

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The Honorable Scott Wiener  
California State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 5100  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**SENATE BILL 57 (WIENER)  
SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Wiener:

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is pleased to support Senate Bill 57.

SB 57 authorizes the City and County of San Francisco, the County of Los Angeles, and the City of Oakland to approve entities to operate an overdose prevention program (OPP) for adults supervised by healthcare professionals or other trained staff where people who use drugs can safely consume drugs and get access to referrals to addiction treatment.

OPPs are an evidence-based harm reduction strategy that allow individuals to consume drugs in a hygienic environment under the supervision of trained staff, who can intervene if the patient overdoses. OPPs also provide sterile consumption equipment and offer general medical advice and referrals to drug treatment and other community social services.

Approximately 165 OPPs exist in 10 countries, and they have been rigorously researched and shown to reduce health and safety problems associated with drug use, including public drug use, discarded syringes, HIV and hepatitis infections, and overdose deaths. Just as important, the research has shown that OPPs *do not* encourage additional drug use or increase crime in the surrounding area, and potentially save millions of dollars in healthcare and incarceration costs.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact our office at (916) 442-0668.

Very truly yours,

GEORGE GASCON  
District Attorney