

HB 973 -- FENTANYL TESTING STRIPS

SPONSOR: Burton

This bill requires the Department of Health and Senior Services to establish a registration process for entities desiring to operate a fentanyl testing strip distribution program, and they shall be allowed to do so, so long as they meet specified requirements established by the Department.

No entity registered with the Department for the provisions of this bill shall be present within 500 feet of any school building, unless the school was constructed or established after the entity began operations.

Additionally, this bill exempts entities registered with the Department and any staff member, volunteer, or participant in a program operated by such entity, from the offenses of unlawful distribution, delivery, or sale of drug paraphernalia, as well as the offense of unlawful manufacturing of drug paraphernalia, for possessing, delivering, distributing, and/or manufacturing fentanyl testing strips in connection with their duties related to or participating in the program.