

February 05, 2026

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr.  
Chairman, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee  
2 East Miller Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: SUPPORT of Senate Bill 327  
(Criminal Law - Drug Paraphernalia and Controlled Paraphernalia Prohibitions - Repeal) -  
FAVORABLE**

Dear Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee Members,

I, Michael Lent, strongly support Senate Bill 327 (Criminal Law - Drug Paraphernalia and Controlled Paraphernalia Prohibitions - Repeal) which will end all penalties for drug paraphernalia. This is a common-sense, evidence-based bill that prioritizes the health and safety of all Marylanders.

Access to sterile paraphernalia does not increase crime or drug use. Ending the penalties can allow for safe and effective syringe access. A U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs review found that syringe access programs do not increase drug use or injection frequency, while reducing HIV transmission and risky injection behaviors ([link to the review](#))

I believe that this bill will simplify Maryland's criminal law, improve our state's infectious disease and overdose prevention response, and keep legally obtained items legal. **I ask that the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee give Senate Bill 327 a favorable report.**

Sincerely,

Michael Lent  
Parkville, MD 21234