

West Virginia Considers Charging for STI Testing

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The West Virginia Senate has advanced a bill allowing local health departments to charge patients for sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing, The Associated Press reports. Currently, STI tests and treatment are available for free from local health departments. Local health officials say the bill is needed because budget cuts to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which is the primary funder of the state's STI services, and the full implementation of the Affordable Care Act (a.k.a. the health care reform law) are pushing states to transfer costs to insurers.

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