

# **CONTRA COSTA COUNTY HAZARDOUS MATERIALS COMMISSION**



March 29, 2013

Federal Glover  
Chair, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors  
651 Pine Street  
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisor Glover:

At our March 28, 2013 meeting, the Hazardous Materials Commission voted 7-1 to recommend that the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors write a letter of support in favor of SB 727, the Pharmaceutical Products Stewardship Program. This bill, if enacted, will require pharmaceutical producers, as defined, to develop, support, and implement programs in California for consumers to properly dispose of expired or unused medications.

In a report submitted to the Board of Supervisors in 2011, the Hazardous Material Commission raised concerns about the limited disposal options for household hazardous wastes including pharmaceuticals, and especially controlled substances. Since that time the Commission has been studying the impacts of pharmaceutical disposal on the environment and human health. Because of concerns over these impacts, the Commission has engaged with other entities to increase educational efforts to consumers about how to properly disposal of unused pharmaceuticals.

This bill will require pharmaceutical producers to establish and fund a system that will:

- be convenient and adequate to serve the needs of all California residents,
- include outreach and educational activities to promote this system,
- have the option to support law enforcement collection of controlled substances.

Thank you for consideration of this recommendation.

Sincerely,

George Smith  
Chair, Contra Costa County Hazardous Materials Commission

Cc: Members, Board of Supervisors

*Members: George Smith, Chair, Rick Alcaraz, Scott Anderson, Don Bristol, Henry Clark, Lara DeLaney, Frank Gordon, Steven Linsley, Jim Payne, Jimmy Rodgers, Ralph Sattler, Leslie Stewart, Don Tatzin*

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