

City Council
Mayor Patrick Slayter
Vice Mayor Neysa Hinton
Michael Carnacchi
Una Glass
Sarah Glade Gurney



City Manager
Larry McLaughlin
lmclaughlin@cityofsebastopol.org
Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, MMC
Mary Gourley
mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org

City of Sebastopol

September 5, 2018

SENT VIA: EMAIL

The Honorable Bill Quirk
Chair, Assembly Environmental Safety & Toxic Materials Committee and Committee
Members
LOB, 1020 N St., Room 171
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: SB 212 (Jackson and Ting) Sharps and Pharmaceutical Drug Take-Back Program
- SUPPORT, IF AMENDED

Dear Chair Quirk and Committee Members:

The City of Sebastopol writes to express our support for SB 212 (Jackson and Ting), if two recommended amendments are incorporated. SB 212 will establish a comprehensive statewide take-back system for sharps and medications. Both sharps and medications present significant and well-documented challenges for all Californians who should have access to safe and convenient disposal options because too often they end up in the trash, on riverbanks and beaches, and in our waterways.

The City of Sebastopol is located in Sonoma County, and works together with other cities, the County and agencies for clean water, habitat restoration, and watershed enhancement. Our collective concern of household hazardous waste led to a regional Safe Medicine Disposal Program, which launched in 2007. Since then, the program funded by local agencies has collected over 124,000 lbs. of pharmaceutical waste. The collection totals and costs have increased every year, so it is logical to project that the program costs will continue to increase. Thus, we are in support of requiring medicine and sharps producers to create, fund, and participate in a safe, convenient collection system for California residents to dispose of their unwanted/expired medicines and used sharps.

Sonoma County and all municipalities within have been collectively developing a comprehensive and convenient medicine and sharp disposal ordinance since 2015. Our unique area and population distribution require a unique stewardship framework to achieve collection and convenience objectives that are consistent with ordinances approved in other California jurisdictions. As such, we are urging that the effective date

The Honorable Bill Quirk
August 21, 2018
Page 2

of SB212 be delayed to January 1, 2019, or later, or the Amendment: Section 42036.2(f)(1)(B) be removed.

Sebastopol also strongly encourages providing residents with the most convenient options for sharps and pharmaceutical drug take-back. In Amendment: Section 42032(f)(1)(A), the City believes that the program can be enhanced by requiring mailers and mail-back services be provided, free of charge, to any resident upon request through the programs 24-hour, toll-free telephone number and website.

SB 212 (Jackson and Ting) addresses the myriad problems that exist due to the lack of a statewide system to manage these products at the end of their useful life.

SB 212 takes an important step in managing waste in California by requiring pharmaceutical and sharps producers to address end-of-life issues for their products. For these reasons, the City of Sebastopol urges your support and "aye" vote on SB 212 (Jackson) when it is heard in committee.

Sincerely,



Patrick Slayter
Mayor