

FILE 141095
FW: TO C-PAGES 03/06/2015

(PRINTED AND FILED)

Major, Erica

From: Major, Erica
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 11:22 AM
To: Board of Supervisors (BOS)
Subject: C-Page - Support Letter - 141095
Attachments: 12 Pilot Pharmacies Support Drug Take Back Leg, 2-25-14.pdf; CA Retailers Support DTB, 2-26-15.pdf; Enviro Groups Support Letter, 2-11-15.docx; Nat Coalition Against RX Drug Abuse SUPPORTS, 2-25-15.pdf; NRDC Support DTB, 3-6-15.docx

Please see attached for the above stated.

Erica Major

Assistant Committee Clerk

Board of Supervisors

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, City Hall, Room 244 San Francisco, CA 94102

Phone: (415) 554-4441 | Fax: (415) 554-5163

From: Johnston, Conor (BOS)
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 10:47 AM
To: Somera, Alisa (BOS)
Cc: Major, Erica
Subject: support letters for 141095

Can we please have these included in the file for the drug take-back legislation.

Conorj

Conor Johnston
Office of Supervisor London Breed
President of the Board of Supervisors
415-554-6783

Sign up for Supervisor Breed's newsletter [here](#)
or visit her website [here](#).

RECEIVED VIA EMAIL

MARCH 6, 2015

141095

February 26, 2015

The Hon. London Breed
City Hall, Room 244
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear President Breed,

We are pharmacists that serve the residents of San Francisco, and we represent the pharmacies that participate in San Francisco's Safe Medicine Disposal Pilot Program. Many of us are unable to attend today's hearing because we are not able to step away from our pharmacies during business hours. Since we cannot attend in-person, we are writing to voice our support for the San Francisco Safe Drug Disposal Stewardship Ordinance, which would ensure that residents can continue to safely and properly dispose of their unused and expired medicines.

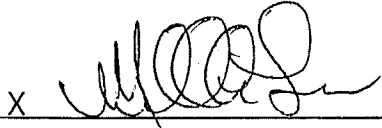
Over the last two years, we have witnessed many customers use the medicine collection bins. Some are seniors who tend to drop off unused medicine more often, and some are people who drop off large quantities of medicine at once from cleaning out their home, or the home of a loved one who passed away. As pharmacists, we are aware of the amount of medications prescribed in our community and believe it is critical that residents have a safe and convenient method to dispose of unused and expired medicines.

We know how important it is for medicines to be taken only by the person they are prescribed for, which is a central reason we support the Safe Drug Disposal Stewardship Ordinance. Providing safe and convenient drop-off locations can help prevent medicines from stockpiling around the home, reducing the risk of accidental poisoning and the availability of medicines for abuse.

Serving as a Safe Drug Disposal drop-off location has not negatively impacted or burdened our businesses. In fact, customers have only expressed appreciation and positive feedback about the Safe Medicine Disposal Pilot Program, and we are pleased to have a concrete directive to our customers on how to safely handle their medications. As pharmacies that have been in the Pilot Program from the beginning, we are confident that a permanent medicine collection program is wanted and would be well-utilized by San Francisco residents. For these reasons, we ask the Board of Supervisors to enact the Safe Drug Disposal Stewardship Ordinance.

Sincerely,

cc: Board of Supervisors

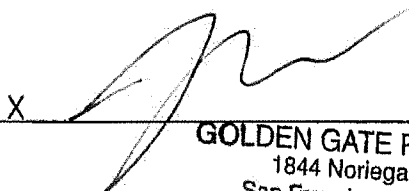
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Mickey Lim, RPH
RPH 46426
Pharmacy Manager Ph. 415-255-2720 Fax: 415-255-0937

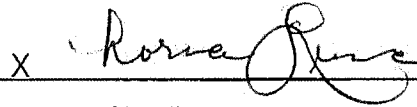
AHF PHARMACY
4071 18th St.
San Francisco, CA 94114

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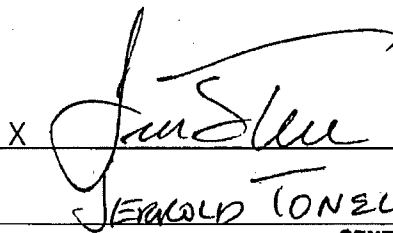
Paul Meyrick
POST DIVISADERO MEDICAL PHARMACY
2299 POST STREET STE 109
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94115
(P) 415-346-2663

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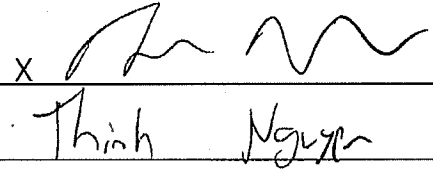
GOLDEN GATE PHARMACY
1844 Noriega Street
San Francisco, CA 94122
Tel: 415-661-0790
Fax: 415-661-0839

X 

Charlie's Drugs (415) 567-0771
1101 Fillmore St. SF CA, 94115
PHA 342530
Fax (415) 567-3342

X 

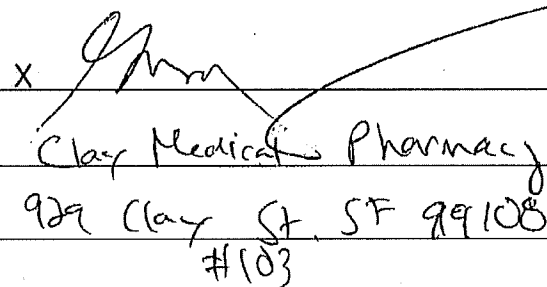
CENTRAL DRUG STORE
4494 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94112

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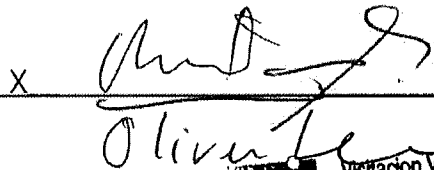
Four-Fifty Sutter Pharmacy
450 SUTTER ST., 7TH FLOOR
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94108
(415) 392-4137


X 

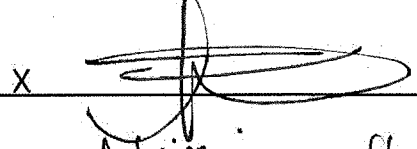
DANIEL'S PHARMACY
943 GENEVA AVE.
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.
94112-3402

X 

Clay Medical Pharmacy
929 Clay St. SF 94108
#103

X 

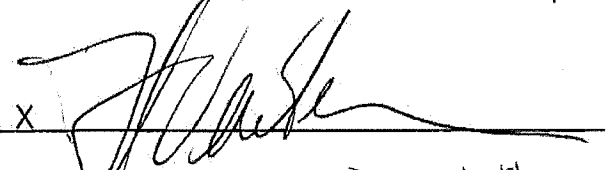
 Vistacion Valley Pharmacy
100 Leland Ave
San Francisco, CA 94134-2806

X 

Mission Wellness Pharmacy
2424 Mission St SF CA 9

X 

THEODORE YEE
FRANKLIN PHARMACY
1508 FRANKLIN ST.
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94109

X 

Torgsyn Discount Pharmacy
5014 Geary Blvd, SF, CA
94121



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MARCH 6, 2015
141095

February 25, 2015

President of the Board, London Breed
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
San Francisco City Hall, Room 244
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

RE: Proposed San Francisco County Safe Disposal Ordinance - SUPPORT

The Honorable London Breed and Members of the San Francisco County Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of the National Coalition Against Prescription Drug Abuse (NCAPDA) Board of Directors, I am pleased to confirm our strong support for the proposed San Francisco County Safe Disposal Ordinance file number 141095.

NCAPDA is a non-profit organization focused on preventing prescription drug abuse related overdose deaths and addiction through community education, policy change and legislative advocacy. In every educational conversation we have with youth and adults of all ages we address the need to lock up their medications so they can't be illegally diverted or accidentally taken by young children. We also educate about the importance of properly disposing of expired and unwanted medications so they aren't diverted and our waterways aren't negatively impacted.

We are supportive of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) as a valid and important policy approach where the producer designs, funds, and operates collection and end-of-life management systems for their products in collaboration with others in the product chain. We feel strongly that EPR should be applied to pharmaceuticals as it has been done in the case of many other products on the market such as mercury thermostats, paint and carpet whose manufacturers have taken responsibility for end of life and residual product management. We believe pharmaceutical manufacturers should take responsibility for the disposal of their unused products also. We supported state legislation that was widely supported in 2013 and 2014 but opponents killed the bills. This only leaves local ordinances as an option and we encourage San Francisco County to proceed and protect public health and the environment.

Sincerely,

April Rovero
Founder/CEO
National Coalition Against Prescription Drug Abuse
925-980-5490
www.ncapda.org

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MARCH 6, 2015
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February 25, 2015

Supervisor London Breed, President
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Support for File #141095 - Safe Drug Disposal

Dear Supervisor Breed:

The California Retailers Association (CRA) is pleased to support File # 141095 relating to Safe Drug Disposal. We appreciate the consideration of our members as you and your staff crafted a workable solution for consumer disposal of unused or expired medications. While these medications serve a great purpose when used as prescribed, they can pose serious dangers and may be especially harmful if they are used by someone other than the person the medicine was prescribed for. Sensible disposal options are important to make available to consumers.

Our members have been proactive in the past on this issue by offering ways to provide safe drug disposal. We have participated in take-back events and the pilot program for the collection of unwanted medications operated by the San Francisco Department of the Environment. The ordinance proposed is consistent with our members' current practices and philosophies. We are pleased to support this approach, as it offers us the flexibility to provide disposal options that operate within our existing capabilities.

The California Retailers Association is the only statewide trade association representing all segments of the retail industry including general merchandise, department stores, mass merchandisers, supermarkets, fast food restaurants, chain drug and convenience stores, as well as specialty retailers such as auto, book and home improvement stores. CRA works on behalf of California's retail industry, which currently operates over 164,200 stores with sales in excess of \$571 billion annually and employing 2,776,000 people - nearly one fifth of California's total employment.

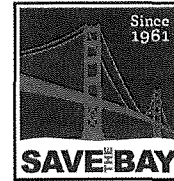
We appreciate the opportunity to be a part of this solution and look forward to the progress made on this issue. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Manetti', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Angie Manetti
Director, Government Affairs

cc: The Honorable Ed Lee
Supervisor Eric Mar
Supervisor Mark Farrell
Supervisor Julie Christensen
Supervisor Katy Tang
Supervisor Jane Kim
Supervisor Norman Yee
Supervisor Scott Wiener
Supervisor David Campos
Supervisor Malia Cohen
Supervisor John Avalos



February 6, 2015

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall, Room 244
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

RECEIVED VIA EMAIL
MARCH 6, 2015
141095

Re: San Francisco Safe Drug Disposal Ordinance (File Number 141095) -- Support

Dear Supervisor:

On behalf of our combined organizations and our tens of thousands of Bay Area members, we wish to express our strong support for the San Francisco Safe Drug Disposal Ordinance (File Number 141095). If adopted, the ordinance will require pharmaceutical manufacturers to develop, implement, and fund safe and convenient programs for the disposal of household drugs. Such an industry supported program will keep tons of pharmaceutical waste out of our waterways each year and represent an important step toward protecting both public and environmental health.

Pharmaceutical chemicals are regulated because of their impacts on humans and other living organisms. They do not belong in our waterways, yet depression, anti-anxiety, anti-epileptic, tranquilizing, and other types of drugs are being detected in the state's drinking water sources and aquatic habitats. Eighteen pharmaceuticals have been found in the South San Francisco Bay, with the antibiotic sulfamethoxazole detected at concentrations approaching levels of concern for aquatic life.

One of the key causes of pharmaceutical pollution is the improper disposal, either down the drain or in the trash, of household medications. Wastewater treatment is not able to completely remove these complex chemicals. Consequently, flushing drugs down the drain increases water pollution. The same happens when drugs are thrown in the trash. After they are landfilled, the chemicals leach into the effluent in the landfill. That liquid can leach into groundwater or is siphoned off and goes through the wastewater treatment process, with the same result as flushing.

The environmental effects of pharmaceuticals are well documented. Reproductive failure in aquatic species due to changes to sex organs, endocrine disruption, sex reversal, and impaired eggs and sperm density can be linked to synthetic estrogens in oral contraceptives. Antidepressants and anti-anxiety drugs at levels found in water sources can reduce sociability, reduce reaction to predators, and alter foraging habits. Some drugs bioaccumulate up the food chain. For instance, drugs to treat hypertension, angina, arrhythmia, and migraine, as well as antihistamines have been found in San Francisco Bay mussels.

While human exposure to drugs through drinking water or eating contaminated food are generally below therapeutic levels, the ultimate effect of continued long-term exposure to chemical mixtures, the development of antibiotic resistant bacteria, and the impacts on vulnerable populations such as fetuses and infants are poorly understood. Studies that show how exposure to small amounts of various drugs can effect embryonic kidney cells, as well as blood and breast cancer cells, demonstrate **the need to take action now to reduce the medications entering water resources, before rising rates of pollution cause serious public health problems.**

San Francisco's pilot program, which allowed residents to drop off medications at local police stations and 13 participating pharmacies succeeded in keeping over 18 tons of pharmaceuticals out of San Francisco Bay and its tributaries over the course of just 30 months. However, the program needs to be extended to ensure that all San Franciscans have access to proper disposal options to protect both the environment and the public. To do this, drug manufacturers need to take responsibility for the end of their products' useful lives.

Pharmaceutical companies support collection programs in other industrial nations, despite the fact that consumers pay a much smaller percentage of their income on medications than do U.S. residents. This has proven to be both a beneficial public service and a cost effective strategy. When companies work together, the cost is so low (usually pennies per returned medication) they have not raised drug prices.

The Bay Area is a leader in protecting both its people and the environment we live in. Alameda County is in the process of implementing a similar ordinance. That law has twice been upheld by the courts, who have found that requiring drug manufacturers to be responsible for the life cycle of their products is fair, affordable for the industry, and does not disrupt interstate commerce. We applaud the San Francisco Board of Supervisors' courage proposing the San Francisco Safe Drug Disposal Ordinance and we urge you to support it when it comes up for a vote.

Sincerely,



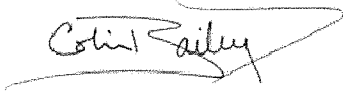
Andria Ventura
Toxics Program Manager
Clean Water Action



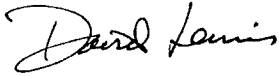
Sejal Choksi-Chugh
Program Director
San Francisco Baykeeper



Bill Allayaud
California Director of Government Affairs
Environmental Working Group



Colin Bailey, J.D.
Executive Director
Environmental Justice Coalition for Water



David Lewis
Executive Director
Save the Bay



Peter Drekmeier
Policy Director
Tuolumne River Trust



Sonia Diermayer
Chair, Water Committee
Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter

Jeanne Rizzo, R.N.
President and CEO
Breast Cancer Fund

RECEIVED VIA EMAIL
MARCH 6, 2015
141095



March 5, 2015

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall, Room 244
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: San Francisco Safe Drug Disposal Ordinance (File Number 141095) -- Support

Honorable Members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of NRDC (Natural Resources Defense Council), which has 1.4 million members and activists, 250,000 of whom are Californians, we are writing to express our support for the San Francisco Safe Drug Disposal Ordinance (File Number 141095). If adopted, the ordinance will require pharmaceutical manufacturers to develop, implement, and fund safe and convenient programs for the disposal of household drugs. This industry-supported program will keep tons of pharmaceutical waste out of our waterways each year and is an important step toward protecting both public and environmental health.

Citizens deserve and demand safe and secure options to manage unused pharmaceuticals that are as convenient as the opportunities to buy them. Inappropriate medication disposal endangers human safety and environmental health. Residential stock-piling of unused household medications leads to easy access and drug abuse by children and teens, and flushing and throwing away medication can harm the environment, including the water we drink. While pharmaceutical take-back is not the only solution to the problem, it is a major step towards a solution.

Safe disposal of pharmaceuticals is a shared societal burden, the costs of which should not fall on local government alone. We ask that the pharmaceutical companies share in this responsibility and work with San Francisco and its many constituencies eager to support a robust program. We encourage San Francisco to proceed and adopt the ordinance.

Sincerely,

Darby Hoover
Senior Resource Specialist

NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL

111 SUTTER STREET | SAN FRANCISCO, CA | 94104 | T 415.875.6100 | F 415.875.6161 | NRDC.ORG