

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

JUNE 14, 2016

**Related to items R-1, 22 and 73:**

On May 17, 2016, our Board approved a motion I introduced which continued the consideration of the Pharmaceutical Drugs and Sharps Collection and Disposal Stewardship Ordinance to June 14, 2016, in order to allow the County EPR Working Group to develop a proposed expedited plan which could be implemented to provide take-back options to residents as soon as possible. In response, the EPR Working Group developed a report which includes the advantages and disadvantages of different options considered and submitted a recommendation to the Board which is consistent with the August 11, 2015 direction from the Board to provide safe, convenient, and sustainable take-back options for residents.

The Board of Supervisors first requested the EPR Working Group to evaluate this important issue on June 2, 2015. Over the past 12 months, these County Departments and the Sanitation Districts have researched available information, compiled reports, studied other models, coordinated stakeholder meetings, consulted with the Environmental Protection Agency and other jurisdictions with take-back programs and solicited feedback from a wide range of stakeholders in order to develop the most effective approach to addressing the growing issues related to pharmaceutical and sharps waste. The information collected suggests that improper disposal of these wastes presents potential hazards to our environment and threatens the public's health and safety, so it was important to take the time to get this right.

Over the past few years, local governments throughout California have worked to reduce harmful impact to our waste stream, specifically through the prevention of improperly disposed-of drugs and sharps. A number of counties in our state, such as Alameda County, have attempted to seek solutions at the local level, such as adopting take-back ordinances that require manufacturers and retailers to undertake collection, transportation, and disposal of unwanted drugs and/or sharps. In spite of widespread public support, these efforts have not made much progress due to various obstacles and were ultimately unsuccessful.

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MOTION

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

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KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

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I, **THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Direct the County's EPR Working Group to work with the stakeholders to implement and immediately launch, in accordance with the recommendations in Option 1 of the report presented in item R-1:
  - A) A public education and outreach campaign approved by the Director of Public Health; and
  - B) Quarterly take-back event days;
2. Direct the County's EPR Working Group to work with Walgreens in order to assess the performance of Walgreens' 24-hour kiosks, and report back on any established benchmarks and best practices that may have been developed as a result of their take-back operation within their pharmacies;
3. Direct the County EPR Working Group to report back with a status report in 60 days; and provide a final report evaluating the implementation of the take-back education and quarterly collection events. This report should include benchmarks that measure the effectiveness of these activities; and
4. Refer Items 22 and 73 back to the Department of Public Health, and direct the Acting Director to present the findings and recommendations resulting from the EPR Working Group's evaluation to the Board. This report should be provided at the Board's November 1, 2016 meeting.

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