

Model Letter

May __, 2012

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors
1221 Oak Street
Suite 536
Oakland, CA 94612
Staff Contact: kamika.dunlap@acgov.org

RE: Support for Alameda County Safe Medication Disposal Ordinance

Honorable Members of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of [Organization Name], I am pleased to advise that [Organization Name] supports the Alameda County Safe Medication Disposal Ordinance and strongly encourages adoption of the ordinance at the next hearing at the County Board of Supervisors meeting expected to be held on June 5, 2012.

[Please add information here specific to your knowledge of pharmaceutical take-back, need, studies, etc...]

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 problems, 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 Alameda County and its many constituencies eager to support a robust program. We encourage Alameda County to proceed and adopt the ordinance.

Respectfully,

[NAME, TITLE]