



CITY OF LONG BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER

September 18, 2018

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for Senate Bill 212 (Jackson): Solid Waste: Pharmaceutical and Sharps Waste Stewardship

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to support SB 212 (Jackson). This bill would establish a pharmaceutical and sharps stewardship program, under which each manufacturer of covered drugs or sharps in the state would be required to establish and implement, either on its own or as part of a stewardship organization, a pharmaceutical and sharps waste stewardship program.

The City supports policies and legislation that promote environmentally responsible approach to consumer goods, including requiring product take-back and recycling, reduction of packaging waste, phase out of toxic products, and reduction of single-use disposable good. SB 212 is consistent with the City's environmental values as well as the City's commitment to safety. SB 212 requires manufacturers of pharmaceuticals and needles to establish a program to responsibly engage in the safe and responsible disposal of these products.

There is a demand for safe disposal in Long Beach. From the perspective of beach safety, the City is made aware of several instances annually, which involve beachgoers stepping on needles. These situations may be avoided, if needles can be disposed of safely with additional and accessible disposal options. The City has also developed a culture of responsible hazardous waste collection. In 2016, a total of 4,587 Long Beach households participated in household hazardous waste disposal through the Environmental Collection Center (EDCO) facility and 2,565 households participated in the safe disposal facility located in San Pedro. These programs diverted a minimum of 239 tons of household hazardous waste including discarded medications and needles. SB 212 would support public safety and add to a responsible hazardous waste collection culture that benefits our collective environment.

Given these reasons, the City requests your signature on SB 212.

Sincerely,

Patrick H. West
CITY MANAGER

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Steven Bradford, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District