
Date: October 14, 2025

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

☐ 4/5 Vote Required

Concurrent Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California, and the Board of Directors of the Sonoma County Water Agency Commending the Safe Medicine Disposal Collaborative

Whereas, the Safe Medicine Disposal Collaborative is comprised of staff and member agencies from the Russian River Watershed Association, Sonoma County Department of Health Services, Sonoma Water, Zero Waste Sonoma, the Cities of Santa Rosa and Petaluma, and Mendocino County Waste Management; and

Whereas, the Safe Medicine Disposal Collaborative group came together nearly 20 years ago to address a significant public health issue plaguing our communities and environment, found ways to share costs, educated our constituencies and decision-makers, and continually provided our County and watershed residents with safe and free access to disposing of medicines and sharps; and

Whereas, the Safe Medicine Disposal Collaborative group influenced a statewide law that shifted financial burdens from local municipalities and water/wastewater utilities to the pharmaceutical industry; and

Whereas, the Safe Medicine Disposal Collaborative's Safe Drug and Sharps Disposal work helped pave the way to a state-wide patchwork of programs, including in Sonoma and Mendocino counties, that led to the passage of SB212 in 2018, which became effective in 2021. SB212 established safe and convenient collection and disposal options for covered drugs and home-generated sharps waste, and requires producers (manufacturers, distributors, re-packagers, the owner or licensee of a covered product, or importers), to design, fund, and implement stewardship programs for the proper collection and disposal of covered products in California; and

Whereas, the Safe Medicine Disposal Collaborative work has educated communities about safe medication and sharp waste disposal; diverted thousands of pounds of unused and expired medicines to be safely collected and properly destroyed; developed a draft Sonoma County ordinance that would have required the pharmaceutical industry to fund the promotion, collection, and disposal of expired/unused medications; participated in a state-wide coalition of jurisdictions implementing similar local programs; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors and the Sonoma County Water Agency Board of Directors do hereby commend the Safe Medicine Disposal Collaborative for their time-honored legacy of dedication, enthusiasm, and outstanding public service given to Sonoma County and the Russian River watershed region.

Supervisors/Directors:

Hermosillo:

Rabbit:

Coursey:

Gore:

Hopkins:

Ayes:

Nose:

Absent:

Abstain:

So, Ordered.