



CITY OF
T O R R A N C E

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February 4, 2016

Hilda L. Solis, Chair
Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 383
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisor Solis:

**SUBJECT: LOS ANGELES COUNTY PHARMACEUTICALS AND SHARPS
COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL STEWARDSHIP ORDINANCE -
SUPPORT**

The City of Torrance supports the Los Angeles County's efforts to adopt an ordinance which would require the development of Stewardship Plans to address the collection and disposal of unwanted/unused pharmaceuticals and sharps waste generated by residents. The ordinance is important because it establishes a sustainably financed program that will provide residents with a convenient means to safely dispose of unwanted sharps and pharmaceuticals and help to prevent them from entering the environment, reduce their availability for drug abuse and misuse, and reduce injuries associated with sharps being improperly disposed. With access to safe and convenient disposal options, as well as a robust outreach and education program, residents will be more informed of the appropriate collection and disposal methods.

The passage of this ordinance would ensure that manufacturers and producers of prescription and nonprescription drugs and sharps share in the responsibility of proper disposal of their products. Torrance supports this shared responsibility approach and does not want the cost of managing these materials at the end of their life solely to come from local jurisdictions.

Following adoption of the ordinance by the Board, the City of Torrance is very interested in adopting a resolution to adopt this ordinance so that our City's residents also have access to safe, convenient, and sustainably financed collection and disposal methods of pharmaceuticals and sharps.

We understand the County has conducted multiple stakeholder meetings which included representatives from the manufacturers and producers of these materials, retailers, pharmacies, consumer advocacy groups, environmental organizations, waste hauling industry, and others in order to develop the most effective ordinance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick J. Furey', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Patrick J. Furey
Mayor, City of Torrance

cc: County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich
Sachi A. Hamai, Chief Executive Officer
Angelo J. Bellomo, EPR Working Group