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August 15, 2016

The Honorable Jerry Brown
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, Governor's Office
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Subject: SB 1229 (Jackson-Stone) – Secure Drug Take-Back Bins – Request for Signature

Dear Governor Brown,

The California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC) is a non-profit organization which formed in 2006 and is comprised of local governments and their associations, businesses, the general public and other entities, that works with product manufacturers and partners with them to encourage a producer responsibility approach to product management.

California communities are struggling with a serious public policy question – how can we best manage the public health and environmental consequences of home-generated pharmaceutical waste (prescription or over-the-counter human or veterinary drugs that are left over after treatment, or have expired). The stockpiling of drugs in homes is unquestionably linked to drug addiction, accidental poisonings, and there is concern about the environmental impacts of current disposal methods such as flushing and landfilling.

Various local governments have adopted, or are in the process of adopting, ordinances designed to provide safe and convenient opportunities for consumers to dispose of their unused medications. Providing safe medication disposal was listed as one of four key pillars of the White House national prescription drug abuse policy recommendations from 2014. Oftentimes, this solution involves take-back kiosks located inside of pharmacies. Pharmacies have expressed reasonable concerns about the potential civil and criminal liability associated with providing this service – whether done voluntarily or as the result of a local or state requirement.

CPSC is pleased to **SPONSOR** and **SUPPORT SB 1229**, because the bill will protect the pharmacies and pharmacists who provide an important community service by providing safe and convenient disposal bins to the public. We respectfully request that you **SIGN SB 1229** when this bill comes before your desk.

Should you have any questions about our position, or wish to discuss this legislation, please feel free to contact Jason Schmelzer at 916-549-0898.

Sincerely,

Heidi Sanborn
Executive Director

cc. Graciela Castillo-Krings, Office of Governor Jerry Brown
Scott Smithline, CalRecycle
The Honorable Hannah-Beth Jackson, 19th Senate District
The Honorable Jeff Stone, 28th Senate District