

RESOLUTION NO. 968

CITY OF LACEY

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LACEY, WASHINGTON IN SUPPORT OF A SECURE, CONVENIENT MEDICINE RETURN PROGRAM TO REDUCE THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF UNWANTED MEDICINES.

WHEREAS, drug overdose deaths have increased to surpass car accidents as the leading cause of accidental deaths in Washington State, and 40% of poisoning deaths involve prescription opioid pain relievers; and

WHEREAS, abuse of prescription pain killers ranks second, only behind marijuana, as the Nation's most prevalent illegal drug problem; and

WHEREAS, abuse of medicines by teenagers is a growing problem, including abuse of prescription drugs, such as anti-anxiety drugs, painkillers, sleeping pills, as well as over-the-counter drugs, such as cough and cold remedies; and

WHEREAS, over half of the people using prescription drugs for nonmedical reasons obtained them from a friend or relative for free, and 15% of tenth graders in Washington who abused prescription pain relievers obtained them from their own or someone else's home without permission; and

WHEREAS, unwanted medicines left in the home could increase opportunities for drug abuse, drug diversion, and accidental poisonings; and

WHEREAS, the number and volume of pharmaceuticals prescribed to U.S. residents has increased dramatically in the past decade with Washington residents purchasing an average of 9 prescriptions per year; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lacey has established a depository for such prescription drugs, however, sustainable funding sources are needed to continue operation of this take back program and to provide for transportation and hazardous waste disposal of such drugs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LACEY, WASHINGTON, supports establishment of a convenient, safe, secure and environmentally sound medicine return program for unwanted medicines from households through an internalized pharmaceutical manufacturer financing mechanism that covers the cost of collection, transportation, and hazardous waste disposal, and does not rely on government funding.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LACEY, WASHINGTON,  
this 16<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2010.

CITY COUNCIL

By Tom Nelson  
Mayor

Attest:

Carol Little  
City Clerk

Approved as to form:

[Signature]  
City Attorney