

**SUPPORT FOR A WASHINGTON STATE SECURE MEDICINE TAKE-BACK PROGRAM
TO REDUCE THE PUBLIC SAFETY IMPACTS OF UNWANTED MEDICINES**

WHEREAS a significant number of medicines from households go unused or expire, and these drugs increase opportunities for drug abuse, drug diversion, and accidental poisonings when stored in homes, and

WHEREAS there is an epidemic of abuse and poisonings from prescription and over-the-counter drugs in our homes, with deaths due to drug overdoses in Washington now greater than deaths from car crashes, and

WHEREAS secure and safe disposal of unwanted medicines is a critical part of a comprehensive approach to reduce the supply of harmful and addictive drugs in the community, and

WHEREAS the DEA, Office of National Drug Control Policy, FDA, EPA, as well as state and local agencies, recommend the use of secure medicine take-back programs for proper disposal of medicines, and

WHEREAS medicine take-back programs protect public safety better than disposal of medicines in the household trash which is not secure or environmentally protective, and not allowed by local ordinances and policies in some Washington jurisdictions, and

WHEREAS the twice-a-year drug take-back events coordinated by DEA and provided with local law enforcement resources will end in 2012 when the DEA finalizes new regulations for take-back of controlled drugs, and

WHEREAS law enforcement and local government budgets in Washington State are constrained, and sustainable funding is needed to provide or continue ongoing medicine take back programs in Washington counties and cities, and

WHEREAS our communities are already struggling with the significant costs of drug abuse, accidental poisonings, overdoses, and drug-related crimes, and

WHEREAS the manufacturers of pharmaceuticals, as the originators of the drugs, have the greatest responsibility for providing secure systems for return of potentially harmful leftover and expired medicines.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the undersigned Washington law enforcement leaders support establishment of a secure, statewide medicine return program for unwanted medicines from households that is financed by pharmaceutical manufacturers, and that does not rely on state and local government funding.

11-17-2011
Date

WJ Benedict
Title: Sheriff
County or City: Clallam County

Mark C. B.
Title: SHERIFF
County or City: ISLAND COUNTY

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C.K. Bancroft
Title: Sheriff
County or City: Asotin County

[Signature]
Title: SHERIFF
County or City: TWISTED COUNTRY

Will P. Hunt (REICHARDT)
Title: SHERIFF
County or City: SKAGIT CO.

Ben Koh
Title: Sheriff
County or City: GARFIELD COUNTY

[Signature]
Title: SHERIFF
County or City: SAN JUAN CO

[Signature]
Title: Sheriff
County or City: Stevens County

Justin L. Johnson
Title: SHERIFF
County or City: PACIFIC COUNTY

Alan Zofka
Title: Sheriff
County or City: Pend Oreille County

[Signature]
Title: SHERIFF
County or City: CHelan County

Stacy Boyer
Title: High Sheriff
County or City: Frederick

Gerry A. Pearson
Title: Sheriff
County or City: Clark

Mark S. Nelson
Title: Sheriff
County or City: Cowlitz

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Paul Pastor

Title: Sheriff

County or City: Pierce County

WALTER HEDDER

Title: SHERIFF

County or City: COLUMBIA COUNTY

Bill Jettis

Title: Sheriff

County or City: Franklin County

ORRIN KARBONCH

Title: Sheriff

County or City: SPOKANE COUNTY

John

Title: SHERIFF

County or City: WALLA WALLA COUNTY

Doug Ben

Title: SHERIFF

County or City: ADAMS COUNTY

Corey Salisbury

Title: Sheriff

County or City: WASCO COUNTY

Wade W. Maggard

Title: Sheriff

County or City: LINCOLN COUNTY

Steve D. Keane

Title: sheriff

County or City: BENTON COUNTY

**SUPPORT FOR A WASHINGTON STATE SECURE MEDICINE TAKE-BACK PROGRAM
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Frank Rogers
Title: SHERIFF
County or City: OKANOGAN COUNTY

John Loring
Title: Sheriff
County or City: Snohomish County

Don Young
Title: SHERIFF
County or City: GRANT COUNTY

J. L. Deane
Title: Sheriff
County or City: Wahkiakum County

Peter Warner
Title: SHERIFF
County or City: FERRY COUNTY

[Signature]
Title: SHERIFF
County or City: YAKIMA COUNTY

**SUPPORT FOR A WASHINGTON STATE SECURE MEDICINE TAKE-BACK PROGRAM
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Nick McCune
Title: Sheriff
County or City: Klickitat County

Title: _____
County or City: _____