



# NATIONAL STEWARDSHIP ACTION COUNCIL

ADVOCATING FOR A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

## Overcoming New Barriers to Recycling ECOS

By: Heidi Sanborn, Executive Director  
April 8, 2019

**NSAC'S VISION:** The United States attains a circular economy.

# Who is NSAC?



Vision: The United States attains a circular economy.

Mission: Collaborate with public and private stakeholders to advance product stewardship and extended producer responsibility.



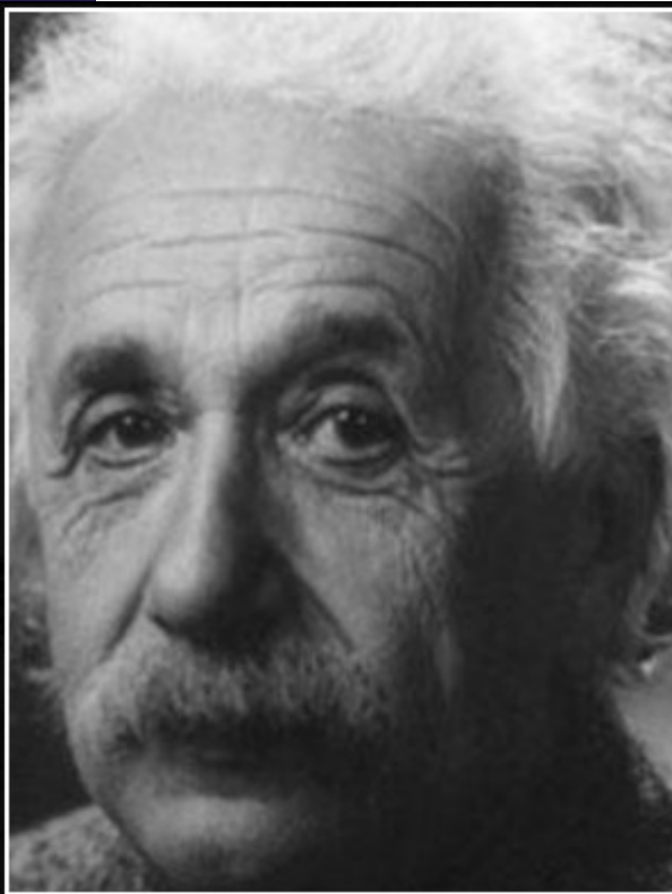
*2017 NSAC Strategic Planning Meeting*

# This is Not About China! It is About Us....



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# We Have to Think Differently...



The true definition of madness is repeating the same action, over and over, hoping for a different result.

— *Albert Einstein* —

AZ QUOTES

# EPR is New to the U.S...

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development



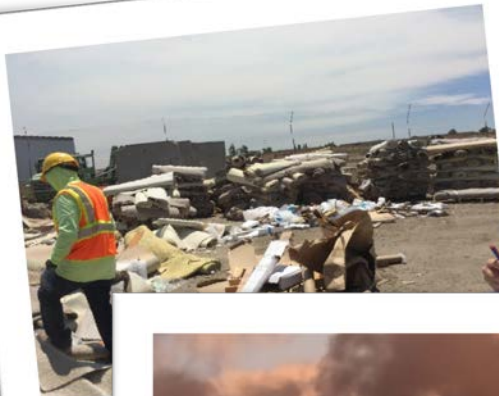
The OECD defines EPR as “an **environmental** policy approach in which a producer’s responsibility for a product is extended to the post-consumer stage of a product’s life cycle”

*Extended Producer Responsibility: A Guidance Manual for Governments* was issued in 2001

<http://www.oecd.org/env/tools-evaluation/extendedproducerresponsibility.html>



# EPR Addresses Multiple Issues



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# What Should We Do?

## Shift to a Circular Economy – Quickly!



# Business Language Spoken



# Voluntary Take-Back: Call2Recycle “All-Battery” Collection Boxes



- Since 2014, nearly **30 tons** of batteries and 428 cell phones collected!



# Voluntary Redesign: ReFuel Your Fun Campaign

Promote and link to [www.ReFuelYourFun.org](http://www.ReFuelYourFun.org)



Like, share posts: [Facebook.com/RefuelYourFun](https://www.facebook.com/RefuelYourFun)

# Voluntary EPR Transitional:

## Don't Rush To Flush, Meds in the Bin, We All Win!



All Care Pharmacy



Community Hospital of the  
Monterey Peninsula



Alisal Pharmacy



Community Hospital  
of the Monterey Peninsula  
Montage Health



[www.DontRushToFlush.org](http://www.DontRushToFlush.org)



# Mandatory EPR: Paint Industry Supported Legislation!

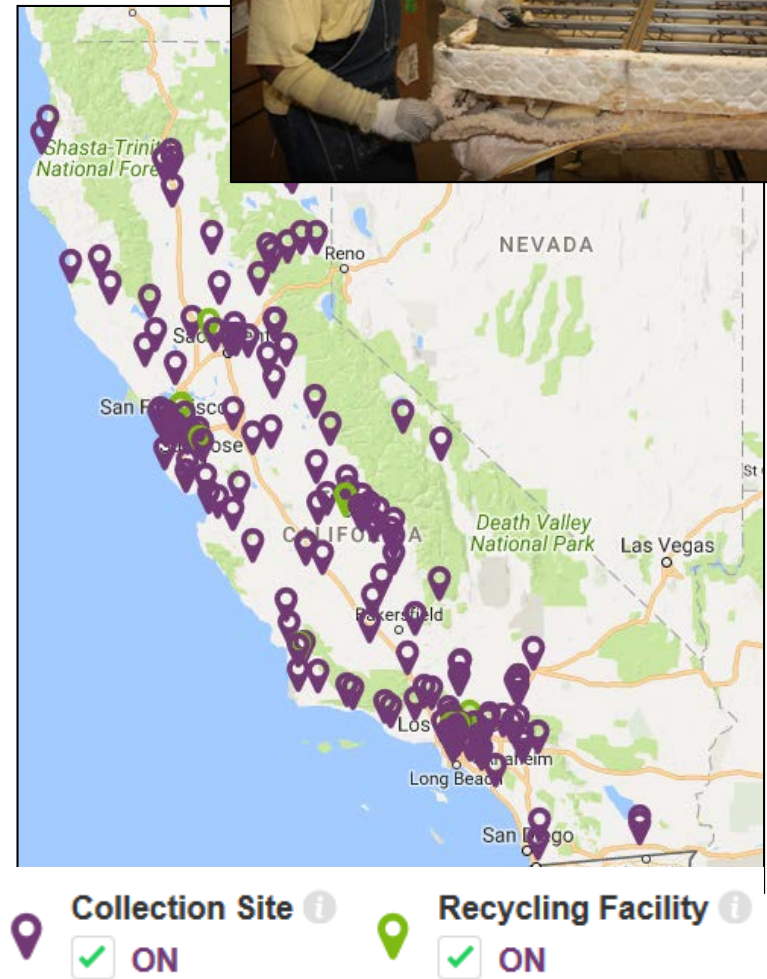


**827 year-round drop-off sites** set up since October 2012!

Saving local governments millions and adding over 50 jobs!

# Mandatory: Support of Mattress Industry

- 165 new drop-off sites in 55 of 58 counties in 2017
- Reimburse counties for costs collecting abandoned mattresses
- Illegal dumping prevention!
- Jobs!



# Carpet Stewardship 1<sup>st</sup> in World!

## Creating New Jobs!

Assemblymember John Perez  
received award from the California  
Product Stewardship Council for  
sponsoring AB 2398



# CA Carpet Bill Led to 50 Jobs!

Aquafil will be opening a carpet recycling processing plant in Woodland California!

- Most carpet is plastic
- Zero emissions plant
- Closed Loop Cradle-to-Cradle, Circular Economy Model



# CA Statewide Meds & Needle Disposal

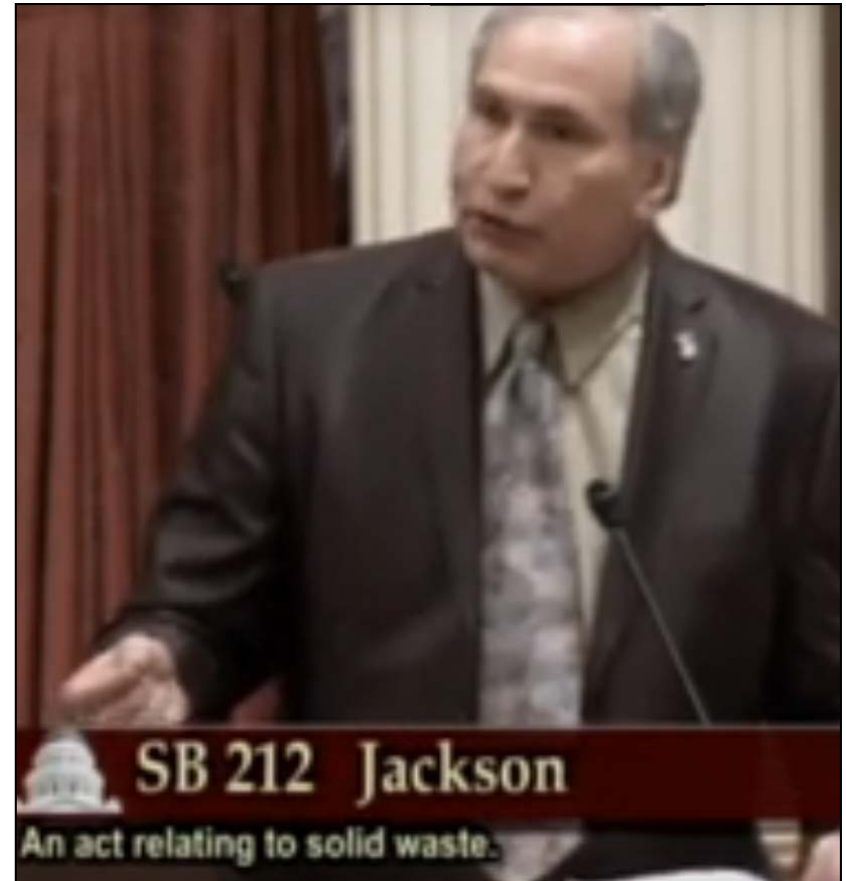
**Signed into Law 9/2018!**

**39-0 Vote off Senate Floor!**

**Pharma/Sharps producers support!**

Key provisions:

- Meds: 1 med bin for every 50k residents or minimum 5/county – any eligible site can opt in;
- Needles/Sharps: Requires free safe disposal sharps containers with **every needle sold** and any sharps collected in public programs will have disposal paid for by producers!



*Senator Jeff Stone (R -Temecula) a pharmacist, speaking on the senate floor supporting SB 212!*

# PhRMA Appealed to Supreme Court

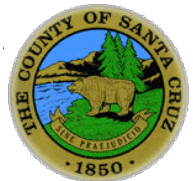


12/29/14: PhRMA and other plaintiff organizations file a Petition For Writ of Certiorari asking the U.S. Supreme Court to consider the case – [Petition text](#)

**5/26/15: Denied! National Impact!**

# CA Meds/Sharps EPR Ordinances

1. Alameda County – meds 7/26/12, sharps 11/17/15
2. City & County of San Francisco – 3/26/15
3. San Mateo County – 4/28/15
4. Santa Clara County – meds 6/23/15, sharps 2/27/18
5. Marin County – 8/11/15
6. Santa Cruz County (meds & sharps) – 12/8/15
7. Santa Barbara County – 6/21/16
8. City of Santa Cruz (meds & sharps) – 8/9/16
9. City of Capitola (meds & sharps) – 8/25/16
10. City of Scotts Valley (meds & sharps) – 12/7/16
11. Contra Costa County – 12/20/2016
12. San Luis Obispo County (med & sharps) – 1/10/18
13. Tehama County (meds & sharps)- 7/3/18



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# Meds EPR Ordinance Implementation

- MED Project operated
- Over 350 bins currently placed in CA and WA counties!
- All funded, designed and operated by producers!
- Government role is oversight, accountability, transparency and enforcement



# Walgreens Voluntary Take Back

*“We are leading the way in retail pharmacy’s fight against prescription drug abuse,”* Richard Ashworth, Walgreens President of Pharmacy and Retail Operations



**2017 – 600 bins installed in 45 states; over 72 tons meds collected**

# Washington & New York

- 3/22/18: Washington State Governor signs [Secure Drug Take Back Act \(HB 1047\)](#)
  - Passed with unanimous vote (49-0)
- 7/10/18: New York State Governor signs [Drug Take Back Act \(SB 7354\)](#)



*“It is equally ridiculous to expect us to pay for disposal of leftover and expired medicines, which is not a law enforcement duty. It is past time to shift the responsibility for providing drug take-back from public funds to the pharmaceutical industry.”*

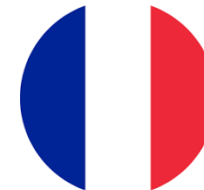
— Washington Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs

# EPR in Mexico Before US!

EPR for medications is widely used in Canada and Europe for almost 20 years!

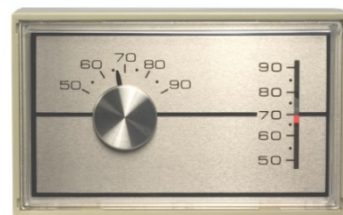
## Examples:

- **Canada** – Health Products Stewardship Association  
[www.healthsteward.ca/](http://www.healthsteward.ca/)
  - Provinces: British Columbia, Manitoba, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, & Saskatchewan (“transitional” EPR)
- **Mexico** – SINGREM [www.singrem.org.mx/](http://www.singrem.org.mx/)
- **France** – CYCLAMED [www.cyclamed.org/en](http://www.cyclamed.org/en)



# Save \$, Drive Markets & Jobs! EPR/Stewardship Programs

1. Bottles & Cans
2. Ag Pesticide Containers
3. Recalled Products
4. Mercury Thermostats
5. Paint
6. Carpet
7. Mattresses
8. Medications & Sharps



# California Circular Economy & Plastic Pollution Reduction Act

AB 54 (Allen) & AB 1080 (Gonzalez)





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## Solving “Waste” Problems Together!



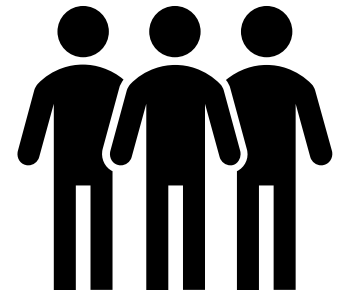
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