



Steven C. Anderson, IOM, CAE
President & Chief Executive Officer

April 13, 2018

The Honorable Joni Ernst
111 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Ernst:

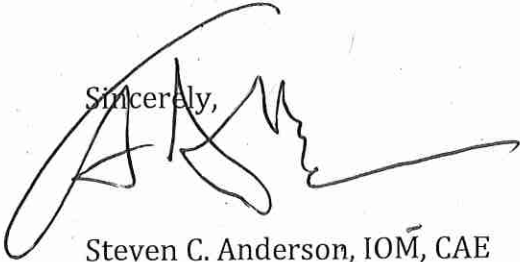
On behalf of our chain pharmacy members, the National Association of Chain Drug Stores ("NACDS") is writing to provide support for the Access to Increased Drug Disposal Act of 2018 (the "Act"). This bill will provide federal grant funding to five states for the purpose of assisting drug disposal authorized collectors with the cost to purchase, install, and maintain drug take-back kiosks, as well as the cost to dispose of collected unwanted prescription drugs and the cost to train staff in operating drug take-back kiosks. We believe that this bill will improve the rate of participation of eligible authorized collectors in grantee states.

NACDS represents traditional drug stores and supermarkets and mass merchants with pharmacies. Chains operate over 40,000 pharmacies, and NACDS' nearly 100 chain member companies include regional chains, with a minimum of four stores, and national companies. Chains employ nearly 3 million individuals, including 152,000 pharmacists. They fill over 3 billion prescriptions yearly, and help patients use medicines correctly and safely, while offering innovative services that improve patient health and healthcare affordability. NACDS members also include more than 900 supplier partners and over 70 international members representing 20 countries.

Chain pharmacies support patient access to safe and effective methods for disposal of unwanted prescription medications. To further such access, NACDS supports policies that accommodate pharmacy participation in a variety of DEA authorized options for prescription drug disposal programs, including take-back kiosks in pharmacies. Through the provision of federal funding to operate take-back kiosks in various communities, the Act encourages more pharmacies to volunteer to host take-back kiosks. Passage of the Act would be a key component of a broader and more diversified effort to assist consumers with safely and effectively disposing of their unwanted prescription drugs.

We thank you for your consideration of our perspectives in support of the Act.
NACDS urges you to support passage of the Access to Increased Drug Disposal Act of
2018.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Anderson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Steven C. Anderson, IOM, CAE
President and Chief Executive Officer