



March 22, 2019

Chair Andrea Salinas  
and Members of the  
House Committee on Health Care  
900 Court St NE  
Salem, OR 97031

**RE: SUPPORT FOR HB 3273**

Dear Chair Salinas and Members of the Health Care Committee:

On behalf of myself, director of the Department of Health and Human Services, and Washington County we respectfully direct your attention to the testimony provided on Thursday, March 21 in regard to House Bill 3273.

As our Health Officer, Dr. Baumann testified, Washington County recognizes the importance to public health and safety, as well as the potential environmental protection that easily accessible drug disposal options for residents, will have in our community.

Dr. Baumann also testified that our Board is considering adoption of a county level ordinance. This ordinance would be a comprehensive solution to drug disposal that ensures the pharmaceutical manufacturers fund, design and implement drug takeback programs to make drug disposal more accessible to our residents.

Washington County would prefer and support the state's adoption of strong legislation that requires pharmaceutical manufacturers are responsible for a comprehensive statewide program. We encourage you to include language such as:

- Ensuring minimum numbers of collections sites per population, including unincorporated areas of the state.
- Adequate education of residents — promotion and outreach required and funded by drug manufacturers.
- Local law enforcement — pharmacies and health care sites funded and supported by the drug manufacturer drug takeback program.
- Assuring that oversight and enforcement of drug manufacturers is an important component of the legislation.

These are all important components in this legislation that ensure the ability of the state to protect the health of the public and the environment. The pharmaceutical manufacturers should be held accountable; not our counties, cities, local law enforcement or local pharmacies.

In closing, I want to thank you for considering this important public health and environmental protection legislation and emphasize Washington County's strong support of HB 3273.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marni Kuyl". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marni Kuyl, MS, RN

Director, Department of Health and Human Services

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Executive Nurse Fellow