

March 22, 2019

Madam Chair Salinas
Members of health care committee

RE: HB 3273

My name is Jackie Jones and I am from Canby. I wanted to thank you again for letting me testify in support of HB 3273 directing prescription drug companies to develop a drug take program. I lost my only child Jim Jones at 18 years old a few years ago from an accidental prescription drug overdose. He was a senior in high school and was looking forward to culinary school once he graduated. He took his own prescribed medication along with a prescription opioid pill that he was able to obtain from a friend. The person he obtained it from got it from a family members medicine cabinet and they may not even have known that their drugs were taken as they most likely forgot that they had unused pain medication still in their medicine cabinet. Teenagers and some adults are not getting their drugs from a drug dealer they are getting them from friends and family without any one realizing it. Most people do not lock up their drugs after their child is a toddler, they no longer think it is necessary even though it's just as important.

Prescription drugs and Over the Counter medications need to have a way to be disposed of that is easy, convenient and efficient for people. People lead busy lives and it needs to be easy to do. I must respond to the idea that was brought up from the oppositions view regarding having people dispose of their medications at home. This is would an unrealistic expectation. It is not an easy task to crush a lot of medications to dispose of and then make sure you have the kitty litter or coffee grounds to do so. People will just keep their medicine in their homes or flush it down the toilet which then contaminate our rivers.

I thank you for your time. Please help to save lives and move this HB 3273 forward. I do not want another parent to feel the pain that I and his dad endure each day. When you lose a cellular part of yourself, your child, the pain is indescribable.

Sincerely,

Jackie Jones
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