



SWANA[®]

SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION
of North America

CALIFORNIA CHAPTERS

FOUNDING

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LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

www.swanacal-leg.org

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March 26, 2009

The Honorable Gloria Negrete-McLeod
Chair, Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development
State Capitol Building, Room 2059
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 26 (Simitian) Home-generated pharmaceutical waste- **Support**

The Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA), the largest association of solid waste professionals (7,700 members), is committed to advancing the practices of environmentally and economically sound management of municipal solid waste. On behalf of their California Chapters, I am writing in support of SB 26 (Simitian).

SB 26 would require the California State Board of Pharmacy to coordinate with other state agencies, local governments, drug manufacturers, and pharmacies to develop sustainable, efficient policies and programs to manage pharmaceutical wastes and the disposal of devices. The bill would authorize a pharmacy to accept the return of home-generated pharmaceutical waste and home-generated sharps waste, as defined in Sections 117669 and 117671 of the Health and Safety Code. SB 26 will establish a system, based on partnerships with the appropriate state and local agencies, retailers, suppliers, and manufacturers, to develop an efficient, safe and cost effective system to manage this waste stream.

SWANA is very supportive of producer responsibility. Without producer responsibility, it is local solid waste and recycling facilities that are in receipt of these items and government workers who are at risk of sickness or infection by their improper disposal.

For these reasons, we support SB 26 and urge your "aye" vote when it is heard in committee.

Sincerely,

Paul Yoder
Legislative Advocate

Cc: Members and Consultants, Senate Business, Professions and
Economic Development
The Honorable Joe Simitian