



IL Drug Reuse Opportunity Program Act - HB119/SB516

In IL, unused prescription medicine in sealed, tamper-evident packaging **cannot legally be donated** to a patient in need.

One in four patients in the US cannot afford the prescriptions they need to stay healthy, despite **\$700 million in medications** eligible to be reused being destroyed.

HB119/SB516 would enable Illinois to join 38 states with laws allowing prescription medication redistribution programs

- The Georgia Donated Drug Repository Program saves patients on average over \$1200 per year.
- The Iowa Drug Donation Repository reports a return on investment of \$7 in medications and supplies for every \$1 invested, saving hospitals \$600-2000 per patient per year.

Survivors of COVID-19 need the medications currently going to waste

- Survivors suffer from lung scarring, blood clots, and heart failure from heart attacks.
- In FY 2018, Iowa received \$782,000 in heart attack and heart failure medication, \$125,000 in blood clot medication, and \$122,000 in lung medication and inhalers.
- Scaling to Illinois' population, an estimated \$4 million worth of medications to help survivors of COVID-19 is being wasted per year in Illinois.

Safely reusing prescription drugs can improve the environment

- 70% of waterways used for drinking water have traces of pharmaceuticals.
- Redistributing one pound of medicine can prevent 30,000 lbs of waste from the production of new medicine.
- Medical waste incinerators are America's third-largest source of *dioxins*, highly toxic pollutants that can cause cancer and harm the immune system.

Under the Illinois Drug Reuse Opportunity Program Act:

- Donations may be made by any person, but medications must be unopened in sealed, tamper-evident packaging.
- Donation records are maintained.
- No controlled substances, expired medications, or opened bottles will be accepted.
- No medications dispensed to patients in typical amber pharmacy vials are eligible for donation.
- Medications will be re-dispensed, for a small fee, to **patients in need**, preferentially **in Illinois**.
- The creation of a drug repository program will improve access to prescription drugs and prevent pharmaceutical waste from polluting our water and air.



Illinois Prescription Drug Repository Coalition -- ILRxDrugRepository.org