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Whereas, improperly disposed pharmaceutical drugs pollute lakes and streams, and result in harmful effects on surface and ground waters; and

Whereas, these improperly disposed pharmaceutical drugs have the potential to be harmful to wildlife and damaging to the public health; and

Whereas, the lack of effective and efficient methods of drug disposal has resulted in undesirable social, cultural, ecological, and global effects; and

Whereas, unused and expired pharmaceuticals are readily accessible to potential abusers through theft, diversion, or criminal resale and present an opportunity for the misuse of drugs; and

Whereas, in recent years, the misuse and abuse of pharmaceuticals by teenagers, adults, and older adults has increased; and

Whereas, one of the most common sources of illicit pharmaceuticals is the home medicine cabinet; and
Whereas, in addition to posing a threat to the environment and public safety, unused and improperly disposed pharmaceuticals also represent wasted health care dollars to consumers, healthcare providers, and taxpayers; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That in order to encourage proper disposal methods of prescription drugs and promote community efforts to facilitate the proper disposal of prescription medication, the legislature does hereby proclaim June 7, 2008, as “Proper Drug Disposal Day.”

(END)