

By: Cook

H.R. No. 1695

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, It is vital that unused prescription medicine be
2 properly disposed of to avoid drug diversion; and

3 WHEREAS, The Food and Drug Administration worked with the
4 White House Office of National Drug Control Policy to develop the
5 first consumer guidelines for proper disposal of prescription
6 drugs; the same disposal methods for prescription drugs apply to
7 over-the-counter drugs as well; and

8 WHEREAS, Issued in 2007, the federal guidelines warn against
9 flushing prescription drugs down the toilet unless the drug label
10 or patient information specifically says to do so; and

11 WHEREAS, If no instructions for the medicine are given, the
12 guidelines call for the drugs to be taken out of their original
13 containers and mixed with an undesirable substance, such as coffee
14 grounds or kitty litter; this way the medication will be less
15 appealing to children and pets and unrecognizable through the trash
16 bag; and

17 WHEREAS, The guidelines go on to recommend putting the
18 medicine in a sealable bag, empty can, or other container to prevent
19 the medication from leaking or breaking out of a garbage bag; in
20 addition, it is suggested that all identifying information be
21 removed from the container to protect one's identity and personal
22 health information; and

23 WHEREAS, Disposing of medicine in the household trash is
24 preferable to flushing it down the toilet because landfills are

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1 governed by strict Environmental Protection Agency regulations to
2 prevent disposed items from affecting the environment; now,
3 therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
5 Legislature hereby encourage all Texans to properly dispose of
6 prescription and over-the-counter drugs.