



Washington State Veterinary Medical Association

TAKE ACTION TODAY!

Tell Legislators to protect your pet's medications now!



House Bill (HB) [1131](#) and Senate Bill (SB) [5154](#), **better known as the Wrap Act**, if passed, will require consumer packaging producers to adhere to new requirements in order to cut down waste. It will set up minimum standards for post-consumer recycled content for various materials, **including packaging for pet medications** so they can be shipped into the state.

A process will be put in place where a producer must petition the state for exemptions for their individual products, **thus putting at risk your ability to get critical medications for your pet from your veterinarian.**

While we wholeheartedly support the reduction of waste in WA, **the WRAP ACT poses a risk to your pet's health!**

Wrap Act details:

- Sets up a process within the Dept. of Ecology to review the packaging of over 1,600 animal medicines from the FDA, and the exterior packaging of all vaccines and biologics from USDA.
- If a drug doesn't pass WA's review, the Dept. of Ecology could restrict access to it until the packaging is redesigned.
- Currently, packaging for veterinary drugs must protect the product with tamper-resistant seals. It must protect against biological contamination, physical damage, and conditions that will alter the product, as well as accommodate detailed labeling requirements and protect public health.
- To comply with FDA and USDA requirements, packaging of each product goes through an extensive review and approval by both agencies to guarantee its' integrity. If WA requires a product to change its' packaging, redesigns will take months of development followed by new FDA and USDA review and approval. This will delay your ability to get the necessary medicines you need.
- Three other states, California, Oregon, and Colorado, have passed similar waste reduction laws and exempted animal medicines.
- If veterinarians can't access necessary drugs, vaccines or biologics to treat patients in a timely manner, your pets could suffer!

Help us protect routine access to pet medications by asking legislators to exempt all animal drugs from the Wrap Act!

TAKE ACTION TODAY!

Instructions

Please contact your legislators by phone or email and tell them how important it is to exempt pet medications from the Wrap Act, HB 1131 and SB 5154.

To determine your legislative district and the names of your Senator and Representatives, visit “Find Your District” at <https://app.leg.wa.gov/districtfinder>.

[SAMPLE LETTER below – fill in the appropriate spaces and copy and paste into email] –

Note: Legislators dislike form letters, so personalizing the letter with information about you and your pet’s medical condition will gain greater attention.

Dear [Rep.] or [Sen.] [INSERT Name]:

As a pet owner, I am writing to urge you to exempt pet medications from HB 1131 and SB 5154 Improving Washington’s solid waste management outcomes, or the Wrap Act. While I’m supportive of efforts to reduce waste in Washington, this bill puts in danger my ability to get the medications I need for my pet’s health. This could risk the life of my beloved [INSERT TYPE OF PET] _____ [INSERT PET’S NAME] _____!

My [INSERT TYPE OF PET] _____ suffers from [INSERT MEDICAL CONDITION] _____.
[INSERT HE/SHE] _____ depends on medication to [INSERT MEDICATION’S PURPOSE] _____.

All pets deserve routine access to necessary medications to treat a variety of diseases and conditions such as parvo, distemper, diabetes, cardiomyopathy, severe pain, and more. I also count on my pet being vaccinated for rabies to protect my family.

Please take the critical step and exempt pet medications from HB 1131 and SB 5154. The life of [INSERT PET’S NAME] _____ depends on it.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

[INSERT NAME]

[INSERT ADDRESS, CITY, ZIP]