

## Leading the Fight Against Opioid Addiction

Kentucky State Senator Alice Forgy Kerr is leading the way in fighting against opioid addiction and abuse.

Frankfort, KY – May 11, 2017 Kentucky State Senator Alice Forgy Kerr is sponsoring a move to curb opioid addiction by providing safe and environmentally conscious disposal solutions for all scheduled II, III, and IV Class Medications. With a comprehensive focus, Senator Kerr has been working with Ben Donaldson of DisposeRx to find a site-of-use home solution that is easy, convenient and inexpensive. "Mitigating diversion, limiting the potential environmental impact of discarded drugs and safely removing drugs from home medicine cabinets to prevent poisonings, accidental overdoses and addiction has been our goal," said Senator Kerr and Ben Donaldson, Director of Governmental Affairs at DisposeRx.

We believe that the singular approach of attacking the opioid epidemic after addiction has set in and has a lower likelihood of success and a much higher cost to individuals, communities and state/federal governments. Combatting our state's opioid epidemic – with site-of-use solutions that can be distributed at the time a patient picks up their medication – allows our pharmacists practicing in our communities with the opportunity to educate patients on proper and safe disposal methods. Senator Kerr is proud to be leading the way when discussing safe and effective consumer alternatives to fighting Kentucky's opioid epidemic. "This goal can be accomplished by empowering patients with environmentally-friendly, non-toxic solutions that safely sequester unwanted or expired medications," Senator Kerr said.

"Our goal is to stop the opioid epidemic by cleaning out the medicine cabinet and stopping the next addiction by dispensing DisposeRx with each opioid prescription, and we are excited to be working with Senator Kerr in bringing solutions to our fellow Kentuckians," Donaldson said. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) tells us that nearly half a million Americans died from drug overdoses from 2000- 2014. The CDC also says that opioid overdose is up 33 percent since 2015 and vital signs indicate that prescription opioid abusers are 40 times more likely to develop a heroin dependency. The statistics on the opioid epidemic keep growing, as more people are killed today in this epidemic than on our highway system each year (47,000). The number of overdoses and deaths have surpassed the AIDS epidemic numbers of the early 1990's. The CDC's number one preventive measure to stopping this epidemic is to "limit initiation into opioid misuse and addiction." By focusing upstream before addiction to prescription opioids begins and working with DisposeRx, we believe that we can get in front of the addiction problem at the source by safely removing and cleaning out medicine cabinets.

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## **About Senator Alice Forgy Kerr**

Alice Forgy Kerr (R-Lexington) has served the 12th District of the Kentucky State Senate since 1999, representing a portion of Fayette County. Senator Kerr chairs the Senate Economic Development, Tourism and Labor Committee and is the co-chair of the Workers' Compensation Task Force. In addition to her 18-year service in the state senate, she was a faculty member and formerly served as the Director of Academic Advising at Midway College. She is the mother of two sons, Carson and Jamison, and grandchildren, Case, Dylan, and Davis. She has dedicated her life to serving her community and state through active volunteerism, education, ministry, and public service.

## About DisposeRx

**DisposeRx** Inc., (<a href="http://www.disposerx.com">http://www.disposerx.com</a>) is a patented blend of solidifying materials that provide a solution for the safe disposal of unwanted, unused or expired medications. Dedicated to environmentally friendly and safe non-toxic disposal solutions, DisposeRx is spearheading programs of educating communities with practical and safe medication disposing solutions, thus preventing the cycle of environmental pollution, addiction, overdose, and death. DisposeRx believes in a safe home, with a goal to stop the nation's opioid epidemic at the home medicine cabinet. DisposeRx has developed both a first in class product as well as a local and regional outreach program, where community investment and partners are provided self-sustaining grass roots implementation.

## Contacts

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