

April 24, 2010

STENEHJEM & STATE PHARMACISTS TO LAUNCH NEW PROGRAM

BISMARCK – Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem will join the North Dakota Pharmacists Association and the Board of Pharmacy in announcing the new pharmaceutical “Take Away” program, a companion to the “Take Back” program Stenehjem launched in December 2009.

The announcement will take place at **2:30 PM today**, April 24, 2010, at the Grand International Inn in Minot, in conjunction with the annual convention of the state Pharmacists Association.

The Take Away program provides participating pharmacists with a container for customers to dispose of many of their unused and unwanted medicines. Although most medications can be disposed of at the pharmacy, the Take Away program cannot accept “controlled substances,” including commonly prescribed pain medications, anti-depressants, anti-anxiety medications and sleep aids.

“The Take Away program will make it very easy and convenient for people to get rid of most of their unwanted or unused over the counter and prescription medicines, because the container will be right there at the pharmacy,” said Stenehjem. “And, of course, people can still dispose of all medications, including controlled substances, in the Take Back containers.”

The Take Back program is currently operating in five cities (Fargo, West. Fargo, Grand Forks, Bismarck and Minot) and will be expanded this summer to serve Dickinson, Valley City, Jamestown and Devils Lake.

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Take Back program: <http://www.ag.nd.gov/PDrugs/TakeBackProgram.htm>.