

DISCLAIMER

Electronic versions of the exhibits in these minutes may not be complete.

This information is supplied as an informational service only and should not be relied upon as an official record.

Original exhibits are on file at the Legislative Counsel Bureau Research Library in Carson City.

Contact the Library at (775) 684-6827 or library@lcb.state.nv.us.

Baret, Jeanne

SB 327

From: Monte Fast [monte200@nvcbell.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2003 1:15 PM
To: vwiener@sen.state.nv.us
Subject: Drug Recycle Program

It was good to see you this morning.

Since I have to be in San Diego delivering recycled medical equipment to a Mexican Medical Program this weekend, I take this opportunity to express my support and appreciation for your efforts to enable needy people in the problem of securing expensive prescription drugs.

As you know, I direct a charitable program here in Carson City called Friends in Service Helping. One of the services we provide is medical care, care provided by a group of professional medical volunteers. Five Medical Doctors, two Licensed Practicing Nurses, and a group of nurses treat about 250 patients each month. This is done without any charge. We screen for people who do not have insurance or funds necessary to go to the emergency rooms or the sliding scale health clinic. Without our program these 260 patients might very well just remain sick.

We find prescription drug costs to be a nearly insurmountable obstacle for these unfortunate, needy, and sick people.

I am certain several local pharmacists would volunteer to process and recycle any prescription products that are no longer needed by other patients. There is no question but patients would be brought back to health, without the stress of figuring out how to pay for the needed prescriptions, some of which may cost hundreds of dollars.

There are patients who purchase a needed drug, or their insurance provides some of these drugs, who on the advice of their physician cannot use these expensive products. To just throw these expensive drugs away, while other needy people are going without is very wasteful. Hospitals, especially our veterans hospitals have to discard these miracles every day.

If your legislation can liberalize this policy, without sacrificing safety, hundreds of people would benefit.

I support your efforts.

Monte C. Fast, Executive Director
Friends in Service Helping, Carson City
Ross Medical Clinic - operated by 25 volunteer medical professionals.