

IN THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE STATE OF OREGON

FOR THE COUNTY OF YAMHILL

SITTING FOR THE TRANSACTION OF COUNTY BUSINESS

In the Matter of a Resolution Recognizing)
May 9, 2023 As National Fentanyl Awareness Day) RESOLUTION 23-05-11-2
And Recognizing Yamhill County’s Commitment)
To Educating Our Residents and Youth on the)
Dangers of Fentanyl)

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WHEREAS, in 2022 the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) recognized the first National Fentanyl Awareness Day, an opportunity to educate the community about the dangers of illicit fentanyl; and

WHEREAS, May 9th is being recognized as the 2023 National Fentanyl Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, drug traffickers mass-produce fake or counterfeit pills in an effort to falsely market them as legitimate prescription pills and/or candy, resulting in deceptions and threats to communities throughout the nation and locally; and

WHEREAS, the DEA has observed a dramatic rise in the number of counterfeit pills containing at least two milligrams of fentanyl, which is considered a deadly dose; and

WHEREAS, fake or counterfeit pills have been identified in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. These fake or counterfeit pills are easily accessible and often sold on social media and e-commerce platforms, making them available to teens and youth. Fentanyl is involved in more youth deaths than all other drug-related deaths combined; and

WHEREAS, over the last 20 years, drug-induced deaths among those 15 to 35 years of age have increased six-fold, largely driven by the increase in fentanyl drugs. Fentanyl-involved deaths are the fastest growing among 14 to 23-year-olds; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, drug overdose and poisoning deaths for persons 14 to 18 years of age grew by 169 percent, more than three times as fast as the national rate and faster than any other five-year age group; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, Oregon saw 11 fentanyl-related fatal overdoses in ages 0-17 and 53 in ages 18-24; and

WHEREAS, the State of Oregon through the Oregon Health Authority established a dashboard monitoring overdoses in the state, and each county, working in conjunction with the Oregon-Idaho High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) program; and

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WHEREAS, Fentanyl is now the second leading cause of unintentional overdose in Oregon, after methamphetamine; and

WHEREAS, Yamhill County Public Health is committed to addressing the dangers of fentanyl specific to youth and is developing an educational platform to share with municipalities, school districts and educational organizations to share collateral specific to campaigns aimed at youth.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Yamhill County Board of Commissioners recommends as follows:

The Yamhill County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts this resolution to recognize May 9, 2023 as National Fentanyl Awareness Day and supports the work in our county happening at all levels to protect the wellbeing of our residents and youth.

DONE at McMinnville, Oregon on May 11, 2023.

YAMHILL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

LINDSAY BERSCHAUER
Chair

KIT JOHNSTON
Vice-Chair

MARY STARRETT
Commissioner