

Resolution No. 35-17

Council Member Zone

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

Joining the Cuyahoga County Board of Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services in declaring the hundreds of opioid overdose deaths in Cuyahoga County a public health emergency, and requesting additional funding from the state and federal governments to address the issue.

WHEREAS, a study performed by the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation compiled from U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention information identifies Ohio as leading the nation in opioid overdose deaths; and,

WHEREAS, the number of heroin and fentanyl related deaths in Cuyahoga County has continued to increase each year: from 198 deaths in 2013 to 224 deaths in 2014 and 228 deaths in 2015; and

WHEREAS, by early November of 2016, there were 415 opioid overdose deaths in Cuyahoga County; it is estimated that more than 600 people in Cuyahoga County will have died from heroin and fentanyl use by the end of 2016; and

WHEREAS, this Council recommends that the state and federal government commit to an aggressive and comprehensive approach to combat this deadly disease; and

WHEREAS, this resolution constitutes an emergency measure for the immediate preservation of public peace, property, health, or safety, now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:

Section 1. That this Council joins the Cuyahoga County Board of Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services in declaring the hundreds of opioid overdose deaths in Cuyahoga County a public health emergency and requests additional funding from the state and federal governments to address the issue.

Section 2. That the Clerk of Council is directed to transmit copies of this resolution to all members of the Ohio State legislature and to the Congressional Senators from Ohio, the Congressional House representatives representing Cuyahoga County and the National League of Cities.

Section 3. That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Mayor; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

MZ:rns
01/09/17