

Board of Commissioners of Cook County

Legislation Details

File #:	23-5429	Version: 1	Name:	Deadly Fentanyl Epidemic Resolution			
Туре:	Resolution		Status:	Held / Deferred in Committee			
File created:	10/17/2023		In control:	Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee			
On agenda:	10/19/2023		Final actio	n:			
Title:	PROPOSED RESOLUTION						
	A RESOLUTION TO ADDRESS THE DEADLY FENTANYL EPIDEMIC						
	WHEREAS, drug overdose or poisoning is the leading cause of death for Americans aged 18-45; an						
	WHEREAS, nearly 70% of those deaths are due to Opioids, including Fentanyl; and						
	WHEREAS, Fentanyl is up to 50 times more potent than heroin and 100 times more potent than Morphine; and						
	WHEREAS, more than 91% of Opioid overdose deaths involved Fentanyl; and						
	WHEREAS, the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office has confirmed 2,000 Opioid overdose death for 2022, breaking the previous record of 1,935 set in 2021; and						
	WHEREAS, Cook County has had two consecutive years of record high Opioid/Fentanyl overdose deaths; and						
	WHEREAS, just over 70% of the overdose deaths were in Chicago; and						
	WHEREAS, approximately 78% of the Opioid overdose deaths are male, African Americans make u 56% of the deaths, Latinos account for just under 15% and whites constitute 29% of the deaths; and						
	WHEREAS, these numbers and statistics are staggering and alarming for countless residents in Coo County and beyond; and						
	WHEREAS, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) says that the majority of Fentanyl is sourced from China and trafficked into the U.S. by the Mexican Sinaloa and Jalisco cartels; and						
	WHEREAS, the current federal border policy ignores and underestimates the impact of the Fentanyl epidemic on the front line; and						
	WHEREAS, the DEA says it seized enough deadly Fentanyl in 2022 to kill every American multiple times over; and						
	WHEREAS, the federal government must tighten the entry points at our borders and crack down on the external producers of this deadly drug; and						
	WHEREAS, many of Illinois' elected leaders reduced criminal charges for Fentanyl through the passage of the state's Safe-T Act; and						
	WHEREAS, current policies are failing as illustrated by the heartbreaking statistics and data. Opioid/Fentanyl death counts will tragically continue to grow without a new rational course of action; and						

WHEREAS, if Illinois wants to save lives, then it must reverse course and strengthen its laws against the illegal distribution and sale of Fentanyl; and

WHEREAS, on the local level, we must expand access to comprehensive drug treatment to end this deadly cycle of abuse that is devastating our communities.

THERFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the time to tackle this deadly epidemic head on is now. The Cook County Board of Commissioners calls for immediate action to be taken by the federal government to properly secure the border to stop the illegal flow of fentanyl into the United States of America.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, copies of this resolution be distributed to Senator Richard Durbin, Senator Tammy Duckworth and the entire Illinois Congressional Delegation, and call upon them to demand President Biden and his administration seek an immediate securing of the U.S. border to stem the dangerous and tragic overflow of Fentanyl into the United States of America.

Sponsors: SEAN M. MORRISON

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments:

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
11/16/2023	1	Board of Commissioners	defer	Pass
11/15/2023	1	Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee	defer	
10/19/2023	1	Board of Commissioners	refer	Pass