

**PALM BEACH COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

## AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

**Meeting Date: December 18, 2018**      ☐ **Consent**      ☒ **Regular**  
    ☐ **Ordinance**      ☐ **Public Hearing**

**Department: Administration**

**Submitted By:**

## I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

**Motion and Title:** **Staff recommends motion to approve:** a resolution urging the legislature and Governor to create and provide funding for a statewide opioid addiction task force.

**Summary:** On December 4, 2018, the Board of County Commissioners requested a resolution be brought forth to urge the legislature and Governor to create and fund a statewide opioid addiction task force. The impact of the national opioid epidemic can easily be seen and felt in Florida where this type of addiction has become an alarming public safety and health crisis. In Florida, opioid overdose incidents and deaths pose serious threats to public health, and the state ranks fourth in the nation for total care costs attributed to opioid abuse. Residents throughout the state, in rural and suburban communities alike, are confronting opioid addiction and resulting overdose deaths. While local task forces may be best equipped to address the distinct needs of a particular community, a statewide task force would be better suited to address more universal issues and problems typically caused by or found in communities dealing with the opioid epidemic. Countywide (DW)

**Background and Policy Issues:** Since 1999, the rate of overdose deaths involving opioids, including prescription opioid pain relievers and heroin, nearly quadrupled with prescription opioid overdoses causing the deaths of over 165,000 people. Opioids are involved in more than six out of every 10 drug overdose deaths, making it one of the most pressing public health crises of our time. As individuals, families, communities and health care providers struggle to cope with substance misuse and disorder, the need now goes beyond what local task forces can handle and a statewide opioid addiction task force is needed.

**Attachments:**

- ## 1. Resolution

N/A

Recommended by: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Department Director Date

**Approved By:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Assistant County Administrator

**Date** 12/17/18

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years					
Capital Expenditures					
Operating Costs					
External Revenues					
Program Income(County)					
In-Kind Match(County					
NET FISCAL IMPACT					
#ADDITIONAL FTE					
POSITIONS (CUMULATIVE					

Is Item Included in Current Budget? Yes No X  
Does this item include the use of federal funds? Yes No X

Budget Account No:  
Fund Agency Organization Object

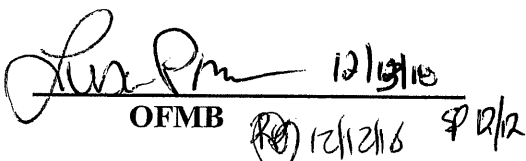
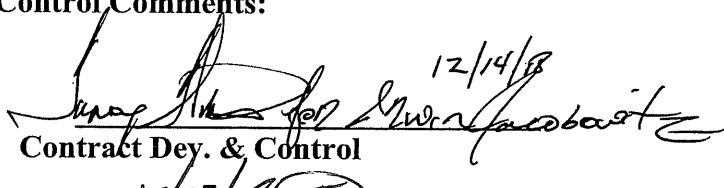
B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

C. Departmental Fiscal Review:

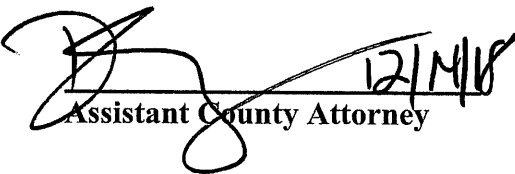
\_\_\_\_\_

III. REVIEW COMMENTS:

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:

 12/13/18  
OFMB 12/12/18 P 12/12  
 12/14/18  
Contract Dev. & Control 12/13/18 (Tu)

B. Legal Sufficiency

 12/14/18  
Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department Director

(THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE USED AS A BASIS FOR PAYMENT.)

**Resolution No. 2018-**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC)  
OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, URGING THE FLORIDA  
LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR TO CREATE AND PROVIDE  
FUNDING FOR A STATEWIDE OPIOID ADDICTION TASK FORCE;  
INCLUDING THIS ITEM AS AN ADDITIONAL STATE LEGISLATIVE  
PRIORITY FOR THE 2019 SESSION.**

**WHEREAS**, opioids are a class of drugs that include the illicit drug heroin as well as the prescription pain relievers oxycodone, hydrocodone, codeine, morphine, fentanyl and others; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals, families, communities and health care systems are struggling to cope with substance misuse and substance use disorder; and

**WHEREAS**, in November 2016, the U.S. Surgeon General released "Facing Addiction in America: The Surgeon General's Report on Alcohol, Drugs and Health" (Report); and

**WHEREAS**, the Report states that substance use disorders represent one of the most pressing public health crises of our times; and

**WHEREAS**, opioid overdose incidents and deaths pose serious threats to public health; and

**WHEREAS**, in January 2016, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported that since 2000, the rate of deaths from opioid overdoses in the United States increased 200 percent; and

**WHEREAS**, since 1999, the rate of overdose deaths involving opioids, including prescription opioid pain relievers and heroin, nearly quadrupled with prescription opioid overdoses causing the deaths of over 165,000 people; and

**WHEREAS**, according to a June 2016 report from the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the economic impact of the opioid epidemic is \$55 billion in health and social costs related to prescription opioid abuse each year and \$20 billion in emergency department and inpatient care for opioid poisonings; and

**WHEREAS**, the impact of the national epidemic can easily be seen and felt in Florida where opioid addiction has become an increasingly alarming public safety and health crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida ranks fourth in the nation for total care costs attributed to opioid abuse; and

**WHEREAS**, residents throughout the state, in rural and suburban communities alike, are confronting opioid addiction and resulting overdose deaths; and

**WHEREAS**, although a number of counties have created task forces to develop plans to address opioid addiction within their communities, some of these counties have also recognized that a statewide approach is a necessary component for their regional efforts to make a measurable impact in the fight against the opioid epidemic ; and

**WHEREAS**, Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade Counties created task forces, which were charged with, among other things, assessing opioid addiction and abuse in each community and developing a plan to address such matters; and

**WHEREAS**, although local task forces may be best equipped to address the distinct needs of a particular community, a statewide task force would be better suited to address more universal issues and problems typically caused by or found in communities grappling with the opioid epidemic; and

**WHEREAS**, a number of states, including, but not limited to, Illinois, Indiana, Montana, Ohio, Rhode Island, Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming have adopted a statewide approach to address the opioid epidemic and multitude of problems it causes; and

**WHEREAS**, a statewide opioid addiction task force could collectively and aggressively help affected communities in Florida mitigate and curtail damage caused by the opioid epidemic.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA THAT:**

- Section 1.

Palm Beach County supports and urges the Florida Legislature and Governor to create a statewide task force to tackle the opioid epidemic and urges the Florida Legislature to appropriate funding to create a statewide opioid addiction task force,
- Section 2

Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of this resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, the Chair and Members of the Palm Beach County State Legislative Delegation, and the Florida Surgeon General/Secretary of the Florida Department of Health.
- Section 3.

Directs the County’s state lobbyists to support the action set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Legislative Affairs department to amend the 2019 State Legislative Package to include this item as a priority.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

COMM. MACK BERNARD, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_

COMM. DAVID KERNER, Vice Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_

COMM. HAL R. VALECHE

\_\_\_\_\_

COMM. GREGG K. WEISS

\_\_\_\_\_

COMM. ROBERT S. WEINROTH

\_\_\_\_\_

COMM. MARY LOU BERGER

\_\_\_\_\_

COMM. MELISSA MCKINLAY

\_\_\_\_\_

The Mayor thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS  
SHARON R. BOCK, CLERK

BY:  \_\_\_\_\_  
Dawn Wynn

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk