

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**RESOLUTION 2023 –**

**WHEREAS**, Fentanyl is a man-made opioid up to 100 times stronger than morphine and 50 times stronger than heroin and it was originally created as a legitimate pharmaceutical drug used to treat severe pain after surgery and in advanced-stage cancer patients; and

**WHEREAS**, According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 107,375 people in the United States died of drug overdoses and drug poisonings in the 12-month period ending in January 2022. A staggering 67 % of those deaths involved synthetic opioids like fentanyl. Some of these deaths were attributed to fentanyl mixed with other illicit drugs like cocaine, methamphetamine, and heroin, with many users unaware they were actually taking fentanyl; and

**WHEREAS**, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention warns that 91 people die every day in the United States from an opioid overdose; and

**WHEREAS**, According to Centers for Disease Control Prevention 2022 statistics, Florida ranks the highest in fentanyl deaths, with teen deaths tripling in the last two years across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, Fentanyl use and overdoses effect Hernando County at the local level with resources in law enforcement, medical, EMS, and schools being allocated to battle this epidemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the root of this epidemic needs to be addressed at the state and national level to provide support for local municipalities and control the influx of fentanyl into our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, as a Nation, we need a strong response to America's overdose epidemic and an investment in prevention, harm reduction, treatment and recovery services, as well as strategies to reduce the supply of illicit drugs through border protection.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HERNANDO COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** The Board of County Commissioners urges all State and Federal elected officials to take all measures to help secure our borders to provide protection against fentanyl entering the United States.

**ADOPTED** in Regular Session this 28<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023, A.D.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Douglas A. Chorvat, Jr.  
Clerk of Circuit Court & Comptroller

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Allocco  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerry Campbell  
Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Elizabeth Narverud  
Vice Chairman

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Brian Hawkins  
Commissioner

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Steve Champion  
Second Vice Chairman