

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
YADKIN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS, Yadkin County Board of Commissioners has the authority to adopt resolutions with respect to county affairs of Yadkin County, North Carolina, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 153A-121;

WHEREAS, the Yadkin County Board of Commissioners has the authority to take action to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the residents and citizens of Yadkin County;

WHEREAS, the National Institute on Drug Abuse, a division of the National Institute of Health, reports that every day, more than 90 Americans die after overdosing on opioids. The misuse of and addiction to opioids—including prescription pain relievers, heroin, and synthetic opioids such as fentanyl—is a serious national crisis that affects public health as well as social and economic welfare. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that the total "economic burden" of prescription opioid misuse alone in the United States is \$78.5 billion a year, including the costs of healthcare, lost productivity, addiction treatment, and criminal justice involvement.

WHEREAS, the National Institute on Drug Abuse further reports that in the late 1990s, pharmaceutical companies reassured the medical community that patients would not become addicted to prescription opioid pain relievers, and healthcare providers began to prescribe them at greater rates. This subsequently led to widespread diversion and misuse of these medications throughout our country and Yadkin County.

WHEREAS, there exists a serious public health and safety crisis involving opioid abuse, addiction, morbidity, and mortality in Yadkin County;

WHEREAS, the diversion of legally produced controlled substances into the illicit market causes or contributes to the serious public health and safety crisis involving opioid abuse, addiction, morbidity, and mortality in Yadkin County;

WHEREAS, the opioid crisis unreasonably interferes with rights common to the general public of Yadkin County; involves a significant interference with the public health, safety, peace, comfort, and convenience of citizens and residents of Yadkin County; includes the delivery of controlled substances in violation of State and Federal law and regulations; and therefore constitutes a public nuisance;

WHEREAS, the opioid crisis is having an extended and far reaching impact of the general public, health, and safety, of residents and citizens of Yadkin County and must be abated;

WHEREAS, the violation of any laws of the State of North Carolina, or of the United States of America controlling the distribution of a controlled substance is inimical, harmful, and adverse to the public welfare of the residents and citizens of Yadkin County constitutes a public nuisance;

WHEREAS, the Yadkin County Board of Commissioners has the authority to abate, or cause to be abated, any public nuisance including those acts that unreasonably interfere with rights common to the general public of Yadkin County and/or involve a significant interference with the public health, safety, peace, comfort, and convenience of citizens and residents of Yadkin County;

WHEREAS, Yadkin County has expended, is expending, and will continue to expend in the future County funds to respond to the serious public health and safety crisis involving opioid abuse, addiction, morbidity, and mortality within Yadkin County; and

WHEREAS, the Yadkin County Board of Commissioners have received information that indicates that the manufacturers and wholesale distributors of controlled substances have distributed in areas of and surrounding Yadkin County, North Carolina, and may have violated Federal and/or State laws and regulations that were enacted to prevent the diversion of legally produced controlled substances into the illicit market.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Yadkin County Board of Commissioners, assembled at this November 20, 2017 meeting of the Board of Commissioners at which a quorum is present, that based upon the above, the Yadkin County Board of Commissioners are declaring the opioid crisis a public nuisance which must be abated for the benefit of Yadkin County and its residents and citizens.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that all resolutions that are inconsistent with this resolution are rescinded.

The motion to approve the foregoing resolution was made by Commissioner Zachary, seconded by Commissioner Moxley, and the following vote was recorded:

[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]

Tanya Gentry
Tanya Gentry
Clerk to the Board

