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# DRAFT

## ***RESOLUTION: Responding to Ohio's Opiate Epidemic***

**WHEREAS**, the members of The Putnam County Opiate Task Force are committed to leading Putnam County in advancing recovery to achieve health and wellness.

**WHEREAS**, Ohio leads the nation in opioid overdose deaths; and

**WHEREAS**, the number of fentanyl-related drug overdose deaths throughout Ohio continues to increase each year from 84 in 2013, to 503 in 2014, to 1,155 in 2015; and Putnam County had 26 heroin overdoses in 2016.

**WHEREAS**, an average of eight people die as a result of a drug overdose each day in Ohio, one death every three hours; and

**WHEREAS**, opiate prescription rates have decreased, but heroin, fentanyl, and carfentanyl continue to be more and more accessible; and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of The Putnam County Opiate Task Force urge the Governor of the State of Ohio, the Ohio General Assembly, and Ohio's Congressional Delegation to declare the opiate epidemic an emergency, prioritizing the needs of Ohioans impacted by opioid addiction by dramatically increasing investments in prevention, treatment, recovery support, education, and interdiction efforts to end this epidemic.

**Ratified on the 26th day of April, Two Thousand and Seventeen.**

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