

*Rio Dell City Hall
675 Wildwood Avenue
Rio Dell, CA 95562
(707) 764-3532
cityofriodell.ca.gov*



March 21, 2023

TO: Rio Dell City Council

FROM: Kyle Knopp, City Manager

SUBJECT: Authorize the Mayor to Sign a Letter in Support of Fentanyl and Substance Use Legislation

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

Authorize the Mayor to execute the attached letter.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Communities throughout California are struggling with a quickly evolving opioid crisis, which is now being driven by the increase in synthetic opioid-related deaths — primarily fentanyl. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 71,000 people died from synthetic opioid-related overdose in the United States in 2021, of which, 7,000 deaths occurred in California. In other words, 1 out of every 10 deaths from synthetic opioids in the United States occurs in California. Key legislation to help address the fentanyl crisis includes:

AB 33 (Bains) Fentanyl Addiction and Overdose Prevention Task Force.

- Would establish the Fentanyl Addiction and Overdose Prevention Task Force to undertake various duties relating to fentanyl abuse.

AB 367 (Maienschein) Controlled Substances: Enhancements.

- Would clarify that the “great bodily injury” sentence enhancement applies when a person sells or otherwise provides fentanyl to a person who subsequently suffers a significant or substantial physical injury from using the substance.

AB 474 (Rodriguez) State Threat Assessment Center: Transnational Criminal Organizations.

- Would require the State Threat Assessment Center and the California Office of Emergency Services to prioritize, to the greatest extent possible, cooperation with state and local efforts to disrupt and dismantle criminal networks trafficking opioid drugs that pose a threat to California.

AB 955 (Petrie-Norris) Controlled Substances

- Would make the sale of fentanyl on a social media platform in California punishable by imprisonment in a county jail for a period of 3, 6, or 9 years.

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May 2, 2023

The Honorable Reginald Jones-Sawyer
Chair, Assembly Public Safety Committee
1020 N Street, Room 111
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support of Fentanyl and Substance Use Related Legislation

Dear Assembly Member Jones-Sawyer,

The City of Rio Dell is encouraged that the Assembly Public Safety Committee will be considering a slate of bills that could help save countless lives throughout our state. The City of Rio Dell supports several critically needed fentanyl and substance use-related pieces of legislation. These measures would stem the tide of illicit substance-related deaths in California and bring relief to the many communities mourning tragic, preventable deaths.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 71,000 people died from synthetic opioid-related overdose in the United States in 2021, of which, 7,000 deaths occurred in California. In other words, 1 out of every 10 deaths from synthetic opioids in the United States occurs in California. The increase of drug-related overdose deaths is largely being driven by the increase in synthetic opioid-related deaths, primarily fentanyl.

Local communities experience the realities of the opioid epidemic every day through the increasing toll on families, first responders, educators, child welfare agencies, public safety officials, health professionals, and community organizations, among others. As committed partners in finding solutions to address the growing substance use crisis in our state, the City of Rio Dell supports the following measures:

Assembly Public Safety Special Hearing on Fentanyl

AB 33 (Bains) Fentanyl Addiction and Overdose Prevention Task Force.

AB 367 (Maienschein) Controlled Substances: Enhancements.

AB 474 (Rodriguez) State Threat Assessment Center: Transnational Criminal Organizations.

AB 955 (Petrie-Norris) Controlled Substances

Now, more than ever, is the time to take action on measures that will preserve human

life and improve the safety and well-being of all Californians.
For these reasons, the City of Rio Dell requests your support on these fentanyl related measures.

Sincerely,

Debra Garnes
Mayor
City of Rio Dell

cc: Members, Assembly Public Safety Committee
Assembly Member Wood and Senator McGuire
Sara Sanders, Cal Cities Regional Public Affairs Manager
League of California Cities