



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: August 31, 2021

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

☐ 4/5 Vote Required

**Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California,
Recognizing August 31, 2021 As "International Overdose Awareness Day."**

Whereas, International Overdose Awareness Day is a global event held on August 31st each year to raise awareness of overdose, reduce the stigma of a drug-related death, and acknowledges the grief felt by families and friends remembering those who have died or had a permanent injury as a result of drug overdose; and

Whereas, Every year there are, on average, 44 deaths in Sonoma County due to accidental drug overdose; and

Whereas, annually on average, there are 476 emergency department visits for accidental drug overdose among Sonoma County residents; and

Whereas, as many as 1 in 4 people who are taking a prescription opioid long term obtained from their primary care provider struggle with physical and/or psychological dependence; and

Whereas, thousands of people die each year from drug overdose, people from all walks of life, which is why it is important to learn to recognize the signs and symptoms of overdose, and the impact of drug use and overdose on family, friends, and those experiencing it; and

Whereas, North America continues to experience the highest drug-related mortality rate in the world, accounting for 1 -in-4 drug-related deaths globally, with opioids accounting for the majority of drug-related deaths, and in most cases such deaths are avoidable; and

Whereas, this day provides an opportunity for people to publicly mourn for loved ones, some for the first time, without feeling guilt or shame and send a strong message to current and former drug users that they are valued.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors does hereby acknowledge the grief felt by families and friends remembering those who have met with death or permanent injury as a result of drug overdose and the need to reduce the stigma of drug-related deaths; and

Be It Further Resolved, that the County of Sonoma designates August 31, 2020 as INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY.

Supervisors:

Gorin:	Rabbitt:	Coursey:	Gore:	Hopkins:
Ayes:	Noes:	Absent:	Abstain:	

So Ordered.