



environment for Davidson County residents and demonstrates that the issue is no longer the "Opioid Crisis" of a few years ago. For example, fentanyl, a synthetic opioid is 50 to 100 times stronger than morphine; and

WHEREAS, the first responder system, linkage to treatment, and treatment services themselves were not built to address this crisis; and

WHEREAS, like all public health emergencies, Davidson County must prioritize response with the limited resources available to support first responders, immediate connections to care and life-saving interventions, while at the same time ensuring that the Metro Public Health Department has the resources to support data-to-action approaches that integrate with mental health treatment and care and reflect the needs of different demographic groups; and

WHEREAS, non-fatal and fatal overdoses are highly traumatic for families, communities, and even workplaces. Non-fatal and fatal overdose response is both financially and emotionally taxing for Davidson County residents, first responders, emergency departments, medical examiners, public health agencies, treatment centers, and others that are deeply impacted by this issue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY:

Section 1. The Metropolitan County Council hereby goes on record as supporting life-saving responses to overdoses largely attributed to the widespread availability of synthetic, illicit drugs.

Section 2. The Metropolitan County Council further goes on record as supporting the alignment of life-saving connections to care with national public health emergencies declared by the current and former U.S. Presidents.

Section 3. The Metropolitan County Council further goes on record as supporting efforts to engage knowledgeable stakeholders to identify immediate points of action to reduce fatal and non-fatal overdoses, address data barriers to help those most at risk for overdose, promote evidenced-based approaches to keeping individuals with a substance use disorder alive through rapid referral to detox and medically assisted treatment, as well as other proven methods of mental health treatment that support recovery so that our diverse communities can be resilient in the face of wide-spread availability of synthetic drugs.

Section 4. This Resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption, the welfare of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County requiring it.