



**RESOLUTION TITLE: TO ACCEPT, APPROVE, AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF THE NATIONAL OPIOIDS SECONDARY MANUFACTURERS SETTLEMENTS AND THE NORTH CAROLINA THIRD SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS (SAAF-3)**

- WHEREAS, the opioid overdose epidemic has taken the lives of more than 37,000 North Carolinians since 2000; and,
- WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic compounded the opioid overdose crisis, increasing levels of drug misuse, addiction, and overdose death; and,
- WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates 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; and,
- WHEREAS, certain counties and municipalities in North Carolina joined with thousands of local governments across the country to file lawsuits against opioid manufacturers, pharmaceutical distribution companies, and chain drug stores to hold those companies accountable for their misconduct; and,
- WHEREAS, a settlement has been reached in litigation against eight opioid manufacturers: Alvogen, Amneal, Apotex, Hikma, Indivior, Mylan, Sun, and Zydus; and,
- WHEREAS, representatives of local North Carolina governments, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, and the North Carolina Department of Justice have negotiated and prepared a Third Supplemental Agreement for Additional Funds (SAAF-3) to provide for the equitable distribution of the proceeds of these settlements; and,
- WHEREAS, by joining the settlements and approving the SAAF-3, the state and local governments maximize North Carolina's share of opioid settlement funds to ensure the needed resources reach communities as quickly, effectively, and directly as possible; and,

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**I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows:**

WHEREAS, it is advantageous to all North Carolinians for local governments, including Gaston County and its residents, to sign onto the settlements and SAAF-3 and demonstrate solidarity in response to the opioid overdose crisis, and to maximize the share of opioid settlement funds received both in the state and this County to help abate the harm; and,

WHEREAS, the SAAF-3 directs substantial resources over multiple years to local governments on the front lines of the opioid overdose epidemic while ensuring that these resources are used in an effective way to address the crisis.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Gaston, North Carolina hereby authorizes the County Manager and County Attorney to execute all documents necessary to enter into opioid settlement agreements with eight opioid manufacturers (Alvogen, Amneal, Apotex, Hikma, Indivior, Mylan, Sun, and Zydus), to execute the SAAF-3, and to provide such documents to Rubris, the Implementation Administrator.

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ADOPTED AND APPROVED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

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I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners for the County of Gaston, North Carolina, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the County at a Regular Meeting duly called and held on September 23, 2025.

WITNESS my hand and the official seal of the County this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

(SEAL)

\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk  
Board of Commissioners  
County of Gaston