



## National Lieutenant Governors Association

### NLGA Consensus Resolution to Promote Overdose Prevention

**WHEREAS**, overdoses from prescription drug misuse, counterfeit prescriptions, illegal drugs, and fentanyl continue to negatively impact Americans across all states, territories, communities, and demographics, and

**WHEREAS**, more than 115 million pills containing fentanyl were seized by law enforcement in 2023, nearly double the amount of pills containing fentanyl seized the previous six years combined<sup>1</sup>, and

**WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control reported 107,543 drug overdose deaths occurred in the United States in 2023<sup>2</sup>, and

**WHEREAS**, for the first time in history, a person is more likely to die from an accidental overdose than from a motor vehicle crash according to an analysis from the National Safety Council<sup>3</sup>, and

**WHEREAS**, participation in one or more high school sports puts adolescents at 30% greater odds of future opioid misuse<sup>4</sup>, and

**WHEREAS**, an average of 28% to 46% of high school athletes have used opioids in their lifetime according to a study commissioned by the University of Chicago<sup>5</sup>, and

**WHEREAS**, a 2008 study by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) found that every \$1 spent on youth prevention programs saves \$18-\$58 in the long term<sup>6</sup>, and

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<sup>1</sup> “Over 115 million pills containing illicit fentanyl seized by law enforcement in 2023.” National Institute on Drug Abuse. May 13, 2024. <https://nida.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/2024/05/over-115-million-pills-containing-illicit-fentanyl-seized-by-law-enforcement-in-2023>

<sup>2</sup> “U.S. Overdose Deaths Decrease in 2023, First Time Since 2018.” Centers for Disease Control. May 15, 2024. [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/nchs\\_press\\_releases/2024/20240515.htm#:~:text=Provisional%20data%20from%20CDC's%20National,drug%20overdose%20deaths%20since%202018.](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/nchs_press_releases/2024/20240515.htm#:~:text=Provisional%20data%20from%20CDC's%20National,drug%20overdose%20deaths%20since%202018.)

<sup>3</sup> “Preventable Deaths – Odds of Dying.” National Safety Council. 2021. <https://injuryfacts.nsc.org/all-injuries/preventable-death-overview/odds-of-dying/>

<sup>4</sup> “Opioids and Youth Athletes.” University of Chicago Study. February 16, 2024. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/19417381241228629?icid=int.sj-full-text.citing-articles.2>

<sup>5</sup> “Opioids and Youth Athletes.” University of Chicago Study. February 16, 2024. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/19417381241228629?icid=int.sj-full-text.citing-articles.2>

<sup>6</sup> “Substance Abuse Prevention Dollars and Cents: A Cost-Benefit Analysis.” SAMHSA. 2008. <https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/cost-benefits-prevention.pdf>

20 **WHEREAS**, a 2021 study by Shriners for Children Medical Center found that combining education  
21 and the distribution of an in-home drug disposal method increased proper disposal to 92%<sup>7</sup>, and  
22 **WHEREAS**, 2022 research from SAMHSA found over 65% of teens are less likely to misuse  
23 prescription drugs if they are aware of the prevalence and dangers of fentanyl<sup>8</sup>, and  
24 **WHEREAS**, only 36% of teens are aware that fentanyl is being used as part of the production of  
25 counterfeit pills<sup>9</sup>, and  
26 **WHEREAS**, Pro Football Hall of Famer Randy White has turned the tragedy of losing a son-in-law  
27 to a fake opioid into a national effort to Tackle Fentanyl with the help of high school coaches and  
28 fellow sports legends, and  
29 **WHEREAS**, Randy's work with the Safety Blitz Foundation's programs focusing on high school  
30 athletics, which combine the popularity and community reach of high school sports to convey and  
31 emphasize the seriousness of the ongoing opioid and overdose death crisis in our country by  
32 providing education and resources including an in-home drug disposal kit to parents, coaches, and  
33 student athletes, and  
34 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA)  
35 encourages NLGA Members to be aware of the efforts of the Safety Blitz Foundation, Randy White,  
36 and other Pro Football Hall of Famers, to promote fentanyl prevention, education, awareness, and  
37 community drug disposal programs to address overdoses;  
38 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that that the NLGA will recognize International Overdose Awareness  
39 Day each year on August 31<sup>10</sup>; Fentanyl Awareness Day each year on May 7;<sup>11</sup> and the biannual  
40 National Drug Take Back Days in April and October each year<sup>12</sup>.  
41 **ADOPTED**, this day, the 1<sup>st</sup> of August, 2024.  
42 Co-Sponsors: *TBD*  
43 *Proposed for the docket by: Pennant, NLGA Partner*

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<sup>7</sup> "Disposal of Unused Opioids Using an At-home Disposal Method." Shriners for Children Medical Center. February 1, 2021.  
<https://www.jposna.org/index.php/jposna/article/view/150>

<sup>8</sup> "Warn the Kids Fake Pill Landscape Research Key Findings." Song for Charlie. October 2022. [https://89faea1f-4bca-418b-930f-c1d2a3e99c7d.usrfiles.com/ugd/89faea\\_974648e12a1140dd96bafbe1d8bb4f5c.pdf](https://89faea1f-4bca-418b-930f-c1d2a3e99c7d.usrfiles.com/ugd/89faea_974648e12a1140dd96bafbe1d8bb4f5c.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> "Warn the Kids Fake Pill Landscape Research Key Findings." Song for Charlie. October 2022. [https://89faea1f-4bca-418b-930f-c1d2a3e99c7d.usrfiles.com/ugd/89faea\\_974648e12a1140dd96bafbe1d8bb4f5c.pdf](https://89faea1f-4bca-418b-930f-c1d2a3e99c7d.usrfiles.com/ugd/89faea_974648e12a1140dd96bafbe1d8bb4f5c.pdf)

<sup>10</sup> "International Overdose Awareness Day." <https://www.overdoseday.com/>

<sup>11</sup> "Fentanyl Awareness Day." <https://www.fentanylawarenessday.org/>

<sup>12</sup> "National Drug Take Back Day," <https://www.dea.gov/takebackday>