

**RESOLUTION R-2017-92
LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL**

*A Resolution by the Luzerne County Council Approving the Initiation of
Litigation Against Opioid Manufacturers and Opioid Wholesale Distributors*

WHEREAS, Section 4.07.B.3 of the Luzerne County Home Rule Charter provides the County Manager shall have the authority to recommend the initiation of litigation involving the County, subject to the approval of County Council; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.09.B.5 of the Luzerne County Home Rule Charter provides that County Council shall have the power to approve, by resolution adopted by a majority vote of the Council members, a recommendation by the County Manager to initiate litigation involving the County; and

WHEREAS, there exists a serious public health and safety crisis involving opioid abuse, addiction, treatment, morbidity and mortality in Luzerne County; and

WHEREAS, the diversion of legally produced controlled substances into the illicit market causes, contributes or increases the risk of harm to the serious public health and safety crisis involving opioid abuse, addiction, treatment, morbidity and mortality in Luzerne County; and

WHEREAS, the County of Luzerne has expended, is expending and will continue to expend in the future County public funds to respond to the serious public health and safety crisis involving opioid abuse, addiction, treatment, morbidity and mortality in Luzerne County; and

WHEREAS, the County of Luzerne may institute litigation to recover any money due to the County as a result of the serious public health and safety crisis involving opioid abuse, addiction, treatment, morbidity and mortality in Luzerne County; and

WHEREAS, the Luzerne County Manager has recommended the initiation of litigation in this matter.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

SECTION 1

That the County Council of Luzerne County hereby declares that opioid abuse, addiction, treatment, morbidity and mortality has created a serious public health and safety crisis in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania and is a public nuisance, and;

SECTION 2

That County Council of Luzerne County approves the initiation of contingency litigation against opioid manufacturers and opioid wholesale distributors and authorizes the County Manager to take all legal and necessary steps to commence this claim in the best interest of the County of Luzerne.

This Resolution shall become effective six days after adoption.

ADOPTED at a meeting of the Luzerne County Council held September 26, 2017.

ROLL CALL VOTE (8-3)

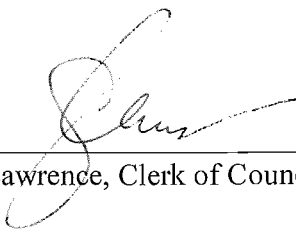
YES: Haas, Kelleher, McGinley, Schnee, Sorokas, Waitkus, Williams, and Houck

NO: Brominski, Dobash, and SA Urban

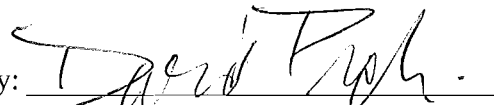
LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL

By: 
Linda McClosky Houck, Chair

Attest:


Sharon Lawrence, Clerk of Council

LUZERNE COUNTY MANAGER

By: 
C. David Pedri, Esq., County Manager