



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Requested Board Meeting Date: 9/3/2024

*= Mandatory, information must be provided

Click or tap the boxes to enter text. If not applicable, indicate "N/A".

***Title:**

Resolution in Support of the "Stop Fentanyl at the Border Act" (S. 3591)

***Introduction/Background:**

The "Stop Fentanyl at the Border Act" (S. 3591) enhances border security, bolsters law enforcement capacity, and disrupts the flow of fentanyl with strategies targeted at criminal organizations.

***Discussion:**

This legislation aligns with the County's commitment and dedication to enhance measures that reduce opioid-related morbidity and mortality, specifically through treatment, overdose prevention and improved access to support services for individuals and families impacted by substance use disorders. This legislation enhances security at the border to prevent the flow of fentanyl and other lethal substances into the region. This legislation will ensure collaboration among healthcare providers, law enforcement, public health, and social services and enhances opportunities to reduce the impact of fentanyl on communities.

***Conclusion:**

This Resolution supports the comprehensive goals to reduce the impact of this public health crisis. It supports our efforts to reduce opioid-related morbidity and mortality, enhanced services for individuals and families with substance use disorder, and addresses the need to bolster enforcement agencies to prevent the flow of illicit substances.

***Recommendation:**

It is recommended that the Pima County Board of Supervisors approve the Resolution in Support of the "Stop Fentanyl at the Border Act" (S. 3591).

***Fiscal Impact:**

None.

***Board of Supervisor District:**

1 2 3 4 5 All

Department: County Administrator's Office

Telephone: 724-8661

Contact: Sarah Davis

Telephone: *Click or tap here to enter text.*

Department Director Signature: _____

Date: _____

Deputy County Administrator Signature: _____

Date: 28 Aug 2024

County Administrator Signature: _____

Date: 8/28/2024

RESOLUTION 2024 - _____

PIMA COUNTY RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE "STOP FENTANYL AT THE BORDER ACT"

(S. 3591)

WHEREAS, the Pima County Board of Supervisors recognizes the ongoing public health crisis caused by fentanyl, having declared it a public health emergency in Resolution 2024-18; and

WHEREAS, fentanyl, a potent synthetic opioid often mixed with other illicit drugs such as cocaine, methamphetamine, and heroin, has been a primary factor in the alarming increase in overdose deaths across Pima County and the nation, transcending demographic, socioeconomic, and geographic boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of Arizona issued Executive Order 2017-04 declaring a statewide public health emergency in response to the growing number of deaths from fentanyl and other opioids, further highlighting the urgency to address this crisis; and

WHEREAS, combating the fentanyl crisis requires close collaboration among healthcare providers, law enforcement, educators, social service agencies, government entities, and community members to implement evidence-based practices and innovative strategies; and

WHEREAS, the "Stop Fentanyl at the Border Act" (S. 3591) introduces critical measures to enhance border security, strengthen law enforcement capabilities, and disrupt the flow of fentanyl into our communities by targeting illegal trafficking networks and criminal organizations; and

WHEREAS, this legislation aligns with Pima County's commitment to reducing opioid-related morbidity and mortality through strategies that prioritize equitable, evidence-based practices, including comprehensive public health outreach, overdose prevention initiatives, and support for individuals and families impacted by substance use disorder; and

WHEREAS, the legislation also acknowledges the need for supporting mental health services and retention programs for border enforcement personnel;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pima County Board of Supervisors endorses the "Stop Fentanyl at the Border Act" (S. 3591) and calls upon Congress to pass this vital legislation to safeguard our communities from the devastating impact of fentanyl and other illicit substances.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Pima County Board of Supervisors remains committed to a regional approach in addressing the opioid crisis, working with local, state, and federal partners to coordinate efforts, increase awareness, and implement evidence-based solutions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Pima County Board of Supervisors urges all stakeholders, including government agencies, healthcare providers, law enforcement, educators, and social service agencies, to support the implementation of these recommendations and join in the fight against the fentanyl and opioid crisis.


PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors, Pima County, Arizona, this _____ day of _____, 2024

Chair, Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Clerk of the Board



Deputy County Attorney



PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
3950 S. COUNTRY CLUB, STE 100 • TUCSON AZ 85714-2056

August 27, 2024

Pima County Board of Supervisors
33 N. Stone Avenue
11th Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Members of the Pima County Board of Supervisors,

On behalf of the Pima County Board of Health (BOH), we respectfully submit our endorsement of U.S. Senate Bill (S.3591) the "Stop Fentanyl at the Border Act" co-sponsored by Senator Mark Kelly. We strongly encourage your support of this Senate Bill as it directly aligns with our ongoing efforts to address the fentanyl crisis, which has been declared a public health emergency in Pima County.

The Pima County BOH endorses the draft resolution language developed by Health Department staff for consideration by the Pima County Board of Supervisors that reflects support for this Senate Bill.

The "Stop Fentanyl at the Border Act" would provide critical tools to enhance border security and disrupt the trafficking networks responsible for bringing fentanyl into our communities. By intercepting these deadly substances at their source, this legislation complements the local initiatives already in place to reduce opioid-related harm, including the comprehensive regional strategies and cross-sector collaborations that the Board of Supervisors has championed.

The BOH understands that the fentanyl and firearm crises require a multi-pronged approach including the need for increasing fentanyl interdiction and enhancing processing capabilities at the border. Disrupting the outbound flow of firearms and currency is also essential to help stem the fentanyl crisis. The BOH would also like to express concerns about negative impacts of militarization of the border on the health of our communities.

Funding continues to be needed at the local level to respond to the opioid crisis, including the healthcare and medical support that is required to address the individual and community opioid crisis.

By endorsing this Bill, you are reinforcing ongoing local initiatives while advocating for the resources needed to combat the influx of fentanyl more effectively both here and throughout our nation. We believe this proactive approach is vital to safeguarding the health and well-being of Pima County residents and all Americans. While we respectfully urge you to support S. 3591, we ask you to consider our concerns.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter, and your continued leadership and commitment to the well-being of Pima County residents.

Sincerely,

Charles Geoffrion
President, Pima County Board of Health

CLERK'S NOTE:
COPY TO SUPERVISORS
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

DATE 8/28/24 RM

AUG 28 2 44 PM '24
PC CLK OF BO
RM