

**BCC Meeting: April 10, 2018
Research Notes**

**Item No.7A
File No. 180315**

Researcher: MF Reviewer: PGE

ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE MIAMI-DADE OPIOID ADDICTION TASK FORCE CREATED BY RESOLUTION NO. R-198-17; EXTENDING THE SUNSET DATE FOR A CERTAIN PERIOD OF TIME; PROVIDING FOR MEMBERSHIP, ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURES; AND SETTING FORTH PURPOSE, FUNCTION, RESPONSIBILITY, AND REPEAL PROVISIONS OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

ISSUE/REQUESTED ACTION

Whether the Board should extend the Sunset date for the Miami-Dade Opioid Addiction Task Force for one year from the effective date of adoption of this ordinance, to provide the Task Force additional time to implement its action plan.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION/POLICY

Miami-Dade County Code, Section 2-11.36.1 defines the term “board” to include every agency, authority, advisory board, regulatory board, quasi-judicial board, semiautonomous instrumentality, committee, task force or any other citizens’ group created and funded in whole or in part by the Board of County Commissioners. It requires that County boards created for more than one year be created by ordinance.

[https://library.municode.com/FL/Miami -
Dade County/codes/Code of Ordinances?nodeId=PTIICOOR_CH2AD_ARTIBSTCRREBOGE_S2-11.36.1DEBO](https://library.municode.com/FL/Miami_Dade_County/codes/Code_of_Ordinances?nodeId=PTIICOOR_CH2AD_ARTIBSTCRREBOGE_S2-11.36.1DEBO)

Resolution No. R-198-17, adopted by the Board on January 24, 2017, created the Miami-Dade Opioid Addition Task Force.
<http://intra/gia/matter.asp?matter=170446&file=false&yearFolder=Y2017>

Resolution No. R-298-16, adopted by the Board on April 5, 2016, expressed the Board’s support for Senate Bill 524, a federal bill before the United States Congress, also known as the Comprehensive Addiction Recovery Act of 2016 or similar legislation that would convene a pain management best practices inter-agency task force.
<http://intra/gia/matter.asp?matter=160540&file=true&yearFolder=Y2016>

United States Senate Bill 524, Public Law No. 114-198, adopted on July 22, 2016, is also known as the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016.
<https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/524>

Resolution No. R-1053-16, adopted by the Board on November 1, 2016, directed the Mayor or Mayor’s designee to provide a report evaluating the extent to which Miami-Dade first responders, including both Police and Fire Rescue personnel, are currently carrying naloxone or similar medication to help combat opioid and heroin overdoses and determining the fiscal impact of implementing a County policy requiring first responders to do so.
<http://intra/gia/matter.asp?matter=162117&file=true&yearFolder=Y2016>

Resolution No. 561-16, adopted by the Board on June 21, 2016, supported a provision in H.R. 953 that would require the Attorney General, in awarding grants to help combat the national epidemics of prescription opioid abuse and heroin use, to give priority to states that have in effect legislation or a policy under which the state suspends rather than terminates Medicaid enrollment for an individual who is incarcerated for less than two years.
<http://intra/gia/matter.asp?matter=161407&file=true&yearFolder=Y2016>

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Prime Sponsor: Chairman Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., Prime Sponsor, District 13

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Commissioner Sally A. Heyman, Co-sponsor, District 4

The proposed ordinance was adopted on first reading by the Board on February 21, 2018; and was set for public hearing at the Public Safety and Health Committee meeting on March 14, 2018.

The proposed ordinance was considered at the March 14, 2018 Public Safety and Health Committee meeting; and was forwarded to the BCC with a favorable recommendation.

FISCAL IMPACT

According to the Fiscal Impact Statement, implementation of this ordinance will have no fiscal impact to Miami-Dade County as it will not result in additional staffing needs or future operational costs.

ANALYSIS

Opioids are a class of drugs that include the illicit drug heroin as well as the prescription pain relievers oxycodone, hydrocodone, codeine, morphine, fentanyl and others. Opioid abuse or opioid addiction is based on specific criteria such as unsuccessful efforts to cut down or control use. This may lead to opioid overdose incidents and deaths. In January 2016, in an article entitled “Increases in Drug and Opioid Overdose Deaths – United States, 2000-2014, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that since 2000 the rate of deaths from opioid overdoses in the United States increased by 200 percent.

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6450a3.htm>

The impact of this national epidemic can especially be seen and felt in Florida where opioid addiction has become a public safety and health crisis. Florida ranks fourth in the nation for total care costs attributed to opioid abuse. Additionally, Florida has the 11th highest drug overdose mortality rate in the nation, with the number of drug overdose deaths in the state doubling since 1999, and among people aged 25 to 64 years old, drug overdoses have caused more deaths than motor vehicle accidents. Opioid abuse is a significant problem in Miami-Dade County. According to a Miami New Times article, in 2016, an average of 36 cocaine users died per month in Miami-Dade County, for a yearly total of 439 cocaine-related deaths.

<http://www.miaminewtimes.com/news/cocaine-and-heroin-deaths-in-miami-dade-are-at-a-15-year-high-9850465>

On January 24, 2017, in response to the opioid epidemic being experienced by Miami-Dade County, the Board adopted Resolution No. R-198-17, which created the Miami-Dade Opioid Addiction Task Force (Task Force), and charged it with developing a comprehensive opioid addiction action plan to halt the opioid addiction epidemic in Miami-Dade County. The Task Force consists of 28 members appointed by the following boards, departments and offices:

- Board of County Commissioners;
- Mayor’s Office;
- Public Defender’s Office;
- State Attorney’s Office;
- Medical Examiner Department;
- Homeless Trust;
- Addiction Services Board;
- City of Miami Police Department;
- Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department;
- City of Miami Fire Rescue Department;
- Community Action and Human Services Department;
- Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County;
- Miami-Dade County Police Department; and
- Department of Children and Families Behavioral Health Division.

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The Task Force also has the following members appointed by or from each of the following entities:

- Florida Legislature;
- City of Miami;
- Miami-Dade County Association of Chiefs of Police;
- University of Miami;
- Florida International University;
- United States Drug Enforcement Administration;
- Jackson Health System;
- Marvin's Corner Therapeutic Community, Inc.;
- Eleventh Judicial Circuit ion and for Miami-Dade County;
- Jessie Trice Community Health Center;
- West Care Foundation;
- South Florida Behavioral Health Network;
- Dade County American Medical Association; and
- South Florida High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Program.

Resolution No. R-198-17 provides that the Task Force shall sunset and stand dissolved on the 365th day from the effective date of the resolution, unless the Board extends the term. Resolution No. R-198-17 became effective on February 3, 2017; therefore, as of February 3, 2018, the Task Force stands dissolved. In June 2017, the Task Force released its action plan and has since worked to implement its recommendations; however, additional time is necessary for implementation of the Task force's action plan. (The Miami-Dade County Opioid Addiction Task Force's 2017 report, with its action plan, can be found at <http://www.miamidade.gov/mayor/library/opioid-task-force/opioid-final-report-06-13-17.pdf>).

Section 2-11.36.1 of the Code of Miami-Dade County requires that County boards created for more than one year be created by ordinance. Therefore, the Board is requested to re-establish the Task Force and extend its sunset period for one year from the effective date of the proposed ordinance.

During the extension period, the Task Force shall provide a report (Implementation Plan) that assesses the status of recommendations set forth in the action plan, which was presented to and adopted by the Board at its July 6, 2017 meeting. This report will, among other things, identify: (1) all recommendations that were implemented and the results of such implementation; (2) all recommendations that were not implemented and the reasons why; and (3) additional recommendations pertaining to implementation of the opioid addiction action plan. This Implementation Plan will be presented by the Miami-Dade Opioid Addiction Task Force no later than August 1, 2018 to the Board for its consideration.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Ms. Claire Felter in her article dated December 26, 2017, entitled "The U.S. Opioid Epidemic", states that [t]he United States is grappling with one of its worst-ever drug crises. More than eight hundred people a week die from opioid-related overdoses, and some experts say that the death toll may not peak for years ... The crisis has reached such a scale that, beyond the risks it poses to public health, it is becoming a drag on the economy and a threat to national security.

<https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/us-opioid-epidemic>

A Sun Sentinel article dated May 25, 2017, entitled "Officials set up task force over opioid epidemic", states that "[i]n Broward County in 2016, 582 drug deaths were recorded, mostly with heroin, fentanyl and other opioids as the likely cause in an overwhelming majority of the cases. The number, which is double the number of deaths in 2014, is expected to jump substantially this year".

<http://www.sun-sentinel.com/local/broward/coral-springs/fl-cspf-opiate-0524-20170525-story.html>

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A link to the Miami-Dade County Opioid Addiction Task Force website is provided below.
<http://www.miamidade.gov/mayor/opioid-addiction-task-force-group.asp>