## **PROCLAMATION**

## OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

WHEREAS, the first ever National Fentanyl Awareness Day launches May 10, 2022; and

WHEREAS, a diverse coalition of Nonprofits, Corporations, Government Agencies and Schools came together to raise awareness about illicit fentanyl in fake pills and street drugs; and

WHEREAS, many experts believe that Fentanyl is the next wave of the opioid crisis throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, the prevalence of fentanyl in street drugs has been increasing for years, drastically raising the possibility of accidental overdose; and

**WHEREAS**, the presence of fentanyl in street drugs are becoming more and more dangerous. National Fentanyl Awareness Day is a moment to educate Americans about the high prevalence of fentanyl in drugs to help them understand the enormity of the risk from even just one pill; and

WHEREAS, illicit fentanyl is the ideal raw material for drug traffickers – potent, profitable, and difficult to detect. This makes controlling the supply uniquely challenging, which means demand reduction and public awareness are critical; and

WHEREAS, raising awareness about the dangers of fentanyl is key to preventing harm and reducing the stigma of substance abuse misuse; and

WHEREAS, National Fentanyl Awareness Day is supported by a coalition of experts in drug policy, public health, harm reduction, internet safety and neuroscience. This breadth of expertise is indicative of the urgency that all stakeholders share about the need to alert the public to the unprecedented increase in drug related deaths driven by fentanyl and to initiate a national conversation about solutions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Humboldt hereby proclaims May 10, 2022 as National Fentanyl Awareness Day in Humboldt County and calls upon its citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools to bring awareness to help fight this growing crisis.

DATED: May 10, 2022 VIRGINIA BASS, Chair