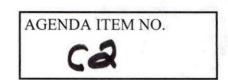


COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT



For the meeting of: May 2a, 2018

Date:

May 11, 2018

To:

Board of Supervisors

From:

Supervisor Virginia Bass

Subject:

Proclaim May 2018 as Hepatitis Awareness Month in Humboldt County

RECOMMENDATION(S): That the Board of Supervisors adopt the Proclamation.

SOURCE OF FUNDING: N/A

<u>DISCUSSION</u>: The Board of Supervisors wishes to recognize that May is Hepatitis Awareness Month and promotes recognition that viral hepatitis is a major community health concern. The Humboldt County Department of Health & Human Services' Public Health Branch and the Humboldt Area Center for Harm Reduction offer free rapid hepatitis C antibody testing.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: N/A

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Board discretion.

ATTACHMENTS: Proclamation

Prepared by	Ryan Sharp		Signature Vineguia Sass		
REVIEW: Auditor	County Counsel	Personnel	Risk Manager	Other	
TYPE OF ITEM:			BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT		
X Consent			Upon motion of Supervisor Eass		
Departmental			Seconded by Supervisor Fenne!		
Public Hearing			And unanimously carried by those members present,		
Other			The Board hereby adopts the recommended action contained in this report.		
PREVIOUS ACT	ION/REFERRAL:		And her		
Board Order No			Dated: 5/2a/18		
Meeting of:			Ву:		
			Ryan Sharp, Deputy O	erk of the Board	

PROCLAMATION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

WHEREAS, May is Hepatitis Awareness Month and promotes recognition that viral hepatitis is a major community health concern, and that more than 4 million Americans are living with chronic hepatitis A through E, many of whom do not know they are infected; and

WHEREAS, viral hepatitis is the leading cause of liver disease, liver cancer and liver transplantation in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that since 2013, hepatitis-related deaths in the U.S. have outnumbered those due to all other 60 nationally notifiable infectious diseases combined, including HIV and tuberculosis; and

WHEREAS, hepatitis C disproportionately affects Humboldt County at a prevalence of approximately 5.6 percent (1 in 18 people) and more than 20 percent in some areas compared to the national prevalence of approximately 1 percent; and

WHEREAS, approximately half of the cases of hepatitis C in Humboldt County in 2017 were in people born in 1966 or later, which is different from the national age distribution of the disease in which nearly 3 in 4 people with hepatitis C were born between 1945 and 1965; and

WHEREAS, the CDC estimates suggest that approximately two-thirds of new hepatitis C infections nationwide are injection drug use-related; and

WHEREAS, the following strategies, when implemented in combination for people who inject drugs, have the potential to significantly reduce the incidence and prevalence of hepatitis C infection: 1) Syringe services programs; 2) Medication Assisted Treatment for opioid use disorder, and; 3) Hepatitis C clinical management and treatment; and

WHEREAS, hepatitis C is treatable and curable, and the CDC recommends all people born between 1945 and 1965 get tested for hepatitis C; and

WHEREAS, the Humboldt County Department of Health & Human Services' Public Health Branch and the Humboldt Area Center for Harm Reduction offer free rapid hepatitis C antibody testing.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims the month of May 2018 as "Hepatitis Awareness Month."

Date: May 22, 2018

RYAN SUNDBERG, Chair

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