



## COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

AGENDA ITEM NO.

**CA**

For the meeting of: May **22**, 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

DISCUSSION: 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 Virginia Bass

**REVIEW:**

Auditor \_\_\_\_\_ County Counsel \_\_\_\_\_ Personnel \_\_\_\_\_ Risk Manager \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**TYPE OF ITEM:**

☒ Consent  
☐ Departmental  
☐ Public Hearing  
☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:**

Board Order No. \_\_\_\_\_


Meeting of: \_\_\_\_\_

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT  
Upon motion of Supervisor **Bass**  
Seconded by Supervisor **Fennell**  
And unanimously carried by those members present,  
The Board hereby adopts the recommended action  
contained in this report.

Dated: 5/22/18

By: Ryan Sharp  
Ryan Sharp, Deputy Clerk 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