

**RESOLUTION BY THE COUNTY OF RUTHERFORD
AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF OPIOID SETTLEMENTS WITH SECONDARY OPIOID
MANUFACTURERS, PURDUE PHARMA LP, AND THE SACKLER FAMILY AND
APPROVING THE THIRD SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS
BETWEEN THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ON
PROCEEDS RELATED TO THE SETTLEMENT OF OPIOID LITIGATION**

WHEREAS, the opioid overdose epidemic has taken the lives of more than 36,000 North Carolinians; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has estimated the total economic burden of prescription opioid misuse alone in the United States to be \$78.5 billion a year, including the costs of healthcare, lost productivity, addiction treatment, and criminal justice involvement; and

WHEREAS, due to the opioid crisis taking an enormous toll on the people and families of Rutherford County, as well as impacting Law Enforcement, Emergency Management and Human Services; the high percentage of children entering foster care as a result of substance abuse by a parent or parents; the human impact on parents, spouses, children, siblings and friends who witnessed and experienced the suffering and death of loved ones; and the fiscal impact to Rutherford County related to health care costs, jail administration and incarceration, emergency management services, child welfare and public assistance; on December 14, 2017, the Board of Commissioners of Rutherford County passed a resolution at a special meeting to authorize investigation and legal action against opioid manufacturers and distributors engaged in the unlawful practices in the marketing and selling of opioids to seek their contribution in resolving the opioid crisis to which they contributed; and

WHEREAS, Rutherford County subsequently joined many counties and municipalities in North Carolina and thousands of local governments across the country to file lawsuits against opioid manufacturers, pharmaceutical distribution companies, and chain drug stores to hold those companies accountable for their misconduct; and

WHEREAS, the litigation against opioid manufacturers, pharmaceutical distribution companies and chain drug stores has previously resulted in settlements agreed by many of these companies that have provided millions of dollars that have and will come to Rutherford County to be used towards healing the damage the opioid crisis has wreaked upon the people of Rutherford County; and

WHEREAS settlements (collectively “the Secondary Opioid Manufacturer Settlements”) have been reached in litigation against Alvogen, Inc., Amneal Pharmaceuticals LLC, Apotex Corp., Hikma Pharmaceuticals USA Inc. f/k/a West-Ward Pharmaceuticals Corp., Indivior Inc., Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Inc., Viatris Inc., and Zydus Pharmaceuticals (USA) Inc., as well as their subsidiaries, affiliates, officers and directors (collectively “the Secondary Opioid Manufacturer Defendants”) named in the Secondary Opioid Manufacturer Settlements; and

WHEREAS, representatives of local North Carolina governments, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, and the North Carolina Department of Justice have negotiated and prepared a Third Supplemental Agreement for Additional Funds (SAAF-3) to provide for the equitable distribution of the proceeds of these settlements; and

WHEREAS, settlements have been reached, under Purdue Pharma L.P.’s bankruptcy plan, whereby Purdue Pharma, L.P. (“Purdue”) and members of the Sackler family will pay approximately \$7.4 billion to settle opioid claims across the nation, which settlements would be subject in North Carolina to the equitable distribution of the proceeds as set forth in the Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”) which has already been approved by this Board; and

WHEREAS, by joining the Secondary Opioid Manufacturer Settlements, approving the SAAF-3, and approving the bankruptcy plan and settlements related to Purdue and the Sackler family, the state and local governments maximize North Carolina’s share of opioid settlement funds to ensure the needed resources reach communities, as quickly, effectively, and directly as possible; and

WHEREAS, it is advantageous to the citizens of Rutherford County and to all North Carolinians for local governments, including Rutherford County, to sign onto the Secondary Opioid Manufacturer Settlements, SAAF-3, and approving the bankruptcy plan and settlements related to Purdue and the Sackler family, in order to demonstrate solidarity in response to the opioid overdose crisis, and to maximize the share of opioid settlement funds received both in North Carolina and here in Rutherford County to help abate the harm; and

WHEREAS, both the MOA and SAAF-3 directs substantial resources over multiple years to local governments on the front lines of the opioid overdose epidemic while ensuring that these resources are used in an effective way to address the crisis;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Rutherford County hereby authorizes the County Manager to execute, on behalf of Rutherford County, all documents necessary to enter into opioid settlement agreements, as set forth herein, with the Secondary Opioid Manufacturer Defendants, to execute the SAAF-3, and to approve the bankruptcy plan and settlement agreements relating to Purdue and the Sackler family, and to provide such documents to Rubris, the Implementation Administrator, subject to pre-audit certificate thereon by the County Finance Officer, if applicable, and approval as to form and legality by the County Attorney.

Adopted this the 8th day of September, 2025.

Bryan A. King, Chair
Rutherford County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Hazel Haynes, Clerk to the Board

SEAL