

EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

December 15, 2021

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ENTRY OF PARTICIPATION AGREEMENTS IN
PARTIAL SETTLEMENT OF THE NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION OPIATE
LITIGATION**

Introduced by the Ways and Means Committee

Commissioner Mulder moved the approval of the following resolution. Seconded by Commissioner Ridge.

WHEREAS, the Eaton County, Michigan filed a lawsuit in the United States District Court to address the public nuisance that is the Opioid Epidemic, which named, among other companies, the following four Defendants (“Settling Defendants”):

1. Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (a prescription opioids manufacturer);
2. Amerisource Bergen Corp. (a prescription opioids wholesaler distributor);
3. Cardinal Health, Inc. (a prescription opioids wholesaler distributor); and
4. McKesson Corporation (a prescription opioids wholesaler distributor)

AND WHEREAS the lawsuit was subsequently transferred to the United States District Court in the Northern District of Ohio and centralized as part of *In re National Prescription Opiate Litigation*, MDL 2804; Case No. 1:17-md-2804, which is presided over by the Honorable Dan Aaron Polster, United State Federal District Court Judge;

AND WHEREAS the Settling Defendants have negotiated proposed national settlement agreements (“Proposed Settlements”) with the State Attorneys General, and a Plaintiff Executive Committee-designated negotiating committee that represents approximately 4,000 local governments that have brought lawsuits similar to Eaton County, Michigan’s lawsuit;

AND WHEREAS the Proposed Settlements contain significant equitable and monetary relief, including:

1. An agreement by Janssen that it will discontinue the manufacture and distribution of prescription opioids products for at least the next ten years;

2. An agreement by Janssen that it will suspend any lobbying efforts that concern prescription opioids products;
3. The creation of a National Clearinghouse for wholesale distributors that will assist in the detection, suspension and reporting of suspicious orders of prescription opioids products; and
4. The payment of up to \$26 billion (depending upon the level of participation of state and local governments in the Proposed Settlements) in funding installments over the next 18 years, the bulk of which will be dedicated to funding abatement and prevention strategies associated with the opioids public nuisance.

NOW THEREFORE, Eaton County, Michigan authorizes the execution of Participation Agreements for: 1. the Master Settlement Agreement with Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; and 2. the Master Settlement Agreement with the three wholesale distributor defendants (Cardinal, Amerisource Bergen and McKesson), both of which are listed and available to the public at <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/>. Specimen copies of the material terms of the participation agreements are attached as an exhibit to this resolution. Carried unanimously.