

**DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**  
**and NOTIFICATION OF ENHANCED SURVEILLANCE ADVISORY**  
***\*Opioid Overdose Epidemic\****

**WHEREAS**, the Arizona Department of Health Services has confirmed 790 deaths due to opioids in Arizona in 2016, which equates to an average of more than two Arizonans per day; and

**WHEREAS**, the Arizona Department of Health Services has confirmed that the number of opioid deaths has increased 74% from 2012-2016, with 2016 showing Arizona's highest number of deaths; and

**WHEREAS**, opioids are powerful pain killers that are highly addictive; and

**WHEREAS**, of the 1,497 drug overdose deaths in 2016, 52.7% noted opioids as a primary cause of death; and

**WHEREAS**, these deaths as a result of overdose are preventable; and

**WHEREAS**, the opioid overdose epidemic affects all Arizonans; and

**WHEREAS**, in Arizona, law enforcement and first responders have the authority to carry and administer the life saving drug Naloxone; and

**WHEREAS**, the Arizona Department of Health Services requires more robust and more accurate data to successfully combat the opioid overdose epidemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor and the Director of the Arizona Department of Health Services have reasonable cause to believe that disease, illness, and health conditions, including death, are being caused by the opioid overdose epidemic; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary and appropriate to take action to ensure that the residents of Arizona remain safe and healthy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor is authorized to declare an emergency pursuant to A.R.S. § 26-303(D).

**NOW, THEREFORE I**, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the State, do hereby determine that the opioid overdose epidemic present in Arizona justifies a declaration of a State of Emergency and issuance of an Enhanced Surveillance Advisory, pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 26-303(D), 36-782, and 36-787, and I do hereby:

- a. Declare that a State of Emergency exists in Arizona due to the Opioid Overdose Epidemic, effective June 5, 2017; and
- b. Direct that the State of Arizona Emergency Response and Recovery Plan be used to direct and control State and other assets, and authorize the Director of the Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs to coordinate State assets; and
- c. Authorize the Director of the Arizona Department of Health Services to coordinate all matters pertaining to the public health emergency response of the State in accordance with A.R.S. § 36-787(A)(2); and

d. Require the Director of the Arizona Department of Health Services to:

- 1) within seven days of this order, provide consultation to the Governor on identifying and recommending the necessary elements for an Enhanced Surveillance Advisory pursuant to A.R.S. § 36-782(B); and
- 2) initiate emergency rule making with the Arizona Attorney General's Office in order to develop rules for opioid prescribing and treatment within health care institutions pursuant to A.R.S. § 36-405; and
- 3) develop guidelines to educate healthcare providers on responsible prescribing practices; and
- 4) develop and provide training to local law enforcement agencies on proper protocols for carrying, handling, and administering Naloxone in overdose situations; and
- 5) provide a report on findings and recommendations, including additional needs and response activities, and preliminary recommendations that require legislative action to the Governor by September 5, 2017.

This Emergency Declaration will be eligible for termination upon my receipt and acceptance of the Arizona Department of Health Services' Opioid Overdose Epidemic Response Report.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.

  
GOVERNOR

**DONE** at the Capitol in Phoenix on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of June in the Year Two Thousand Seventeen and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-first.

ATTEST:



Secretary of State

