

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

MOTION NO. 22-378

AUTHORIZING THE SETTLEMENT OF LEGAL CLAIMS AGAINST CERTAIN OPIOID
DISTRIBUTORS, JOINING THE 'ONE WASHINGTON' MEMORANDUM OF
UNDERSTANDING, PARTICIPATING IN THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
SETTLEMENT AND ALLOCATION AGREEMENTS

WHEREAS, the opioid epidemic is a public health, safety and economic crisis impacting all communities within Snohomish County resulting in a significant loss of life, productivity, and economic damages to the County; and

WHEREAS, Snohomish County has directed the Department of Emergency Management to coordinate a regional response to the opioid epidemic; and

WHEREAS, the pharmaceutical industry plays a significant role in the opioid epidemic in Snohomish County; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 Snohomish County initiated legal proceedings seeking accountability for those playing a role in the opioid epidemic; and

WHEREAS, after a 6-month trial at the close of the evidence, the State of Washington reached a settlement with McKesson Corp., Cardinal Health Inc., and AmerisourceBergen Drug Corp. for up to \$518 million. More than \$476 million will be directed toward addressing the opioid epidemic. This money will be paid over 17 years; and

WHEREAS, Washington cities and counties with population over 10,000 can join this settlement. If a sufficient number join, they will receive up to \$215 million that must be spent on efforts to combat the opioid epidemic; and

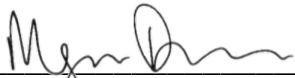
WHEREAS, Snohomish County stands to receive up to \$14.8 million in funds under the settlement agreement that will be used for abatement of the opioid epidemic; and

WHEREAS, resolution of claims against these specific distributors is only one piece of the ongoing litigation initiated by the County and does not resolve litigation against the remaining defendants;

NOW, THEREFORE, ON MOTION, the Snohomish County Council authorizes the County Executive and/or legal counsel to execute the One Washington Memorandum of Understanding, the Participation Form, the state Allocation Agreement, and such other instruments as are required to join in the State of Washington's settlement with McKesson Corp., Cardinal Health Inc., and AmerisourceBergen Drug Corp.

PASSED this 7th day of September, 2022.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington



Chairperson

ATTEST:



Asst. Clerk of the Council