RESOLUTION

OF

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MARIN COUNTY

PROCLAIMING

PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH

MARCH 2017

WHEREAS, prescription drug abuse is the nation's fastest-growing drug problem, and Marin County is deeply impacted; and

WHEREAS, there are more overdose deaths nationwide from prescription opioids and sedatives than from heroin and cocaine combined; and

WHEREAS, since 2009 in Marin County more people have died from accidental drug poisonings than from motor vehicle accidents; and

WHEREAS, the number of emergency room visits related to narcotics and the number of accidental drug overdoses has more than doubled over the past 10 years in Marin County; and

WHEREAS, the epidemic has even spread to our children, where one in ten of eleventh graders in Marin County report having used prescription painkillers recreationally in 2015; and

WHEREAS, there are over 400,000 pain killers, sedative and stimulant prescriptions per year in Marin County; and

WHEREAS, everyone has a part to play in addressing the local opioid epidemic and should safely dispose of unused and unwanted medications, and talk to their medical provider about healthier non pharmacologic alternatives for managing pain; and

WHEREAS, Marin County is proactively addressing this problem through RxSafe Marin, a community-wide coalition representing health care providers, law enforcement, educators, public health, community advocates, and concerned parents; and

WHEREAS, these combined efforts have led to a reduction in narcotic prescriptions in 2015 and 2016, after more than a decade of ever increasing narcotic prescription rates; and

WHEREAS, between 2013 and 2015 the number of accidental drug overdoses in Marin County dropped 50%.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin hereby proclaims the month of March 2017 as "Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month" and encourages residents to join the community-wide response to this epidemic.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin held this 14th day of March 2017.

JUDY ARNOLD - SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 5 - PRESIDENT

KATIE RICE - SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 2

COUNTY OF MARIN