

## **LEGISLATIVE DIGEST**

[Accept and Expend Grant - Retroactive - California Department of Public Health Substance and Addiction Prevention Branch - Overdose Prevention Initiative - \$312,966]

**Ordinance retroactively authorizing the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner to accept and expend a grant in the amount of \$312,966 from the California Department of Public Health, Substance and Addiction Prevention Branch; and authorizing the addition of one grant-funded temporary Class 2456 Forensic Toxicologist, for the period beginning February 1, 2022, through August 31, 2023.**

### **Background Information**

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner has applied to the California Department of Public Health's Substance and Addiction Prevention Branch for a grant to improve detection of synthetic opioid use and opioid-stimulant polysubstance use in drug overdose deaths. The California Department of Public Health's Substance and Addiction Prevention Branch supports counties and cities to address the significant public health issue of overdose deaths related to heroin, fentanyl, and amphetamines.

### **Proposed Ordinance**

The proposed ordinance authorizes the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner to accept and expend a grant of \$312,966 from the California Department of Public Health's Substance and Addiction Prevention Branch to fund the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner's development and validation of an enhanced forensic toxicology testing protocol to improve detection of synthetic opioid use and opioid-stimulant polysubstance use in cases of fatal drug overdose. The grant term is February 1, 2022 to August 31, 2023. The grant will fund the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner's addition of a temporary Forensic Toxicologist to develop and validate this new protocol.

Pursuant to Administrative Code §10.170-1(d), the proposed ordinance authorizes the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner's addition of a temporary Forensic Toxicologist position. Amendment of the Annual Salary Ordinance is not necessary for this temporary position.

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