



# City of New Bedford

IN COMMITTEE

March 25, 2021

The Honorable City Council  
133 William Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Honorable Members of the City Council:

The Committee on Appointments & Briefings at a Meeting held on Tuesday, March 16, 2021, considered a WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Gomes, requesting, that Mayor Mitchell and City Solicitor McDermott begin the process of filing a lawsuit against the pharmaceutical companies that produce Opioid pain killer medication based on the damage done to our community, the lives lost, the epidemic of overdoses, and the added calls for services from our EMS, POLICE and FIRE DEPARTMENTS, along with the distraction and deterioration of the Cities, people and communities; and further, that the City Solicitor ask the State for records of the pharmaceutical companies that have done business in the area along with records of any area doctors that may have overprescribed Opioid drugs in the greater New Bedford area; this request and lawsuit is similar to other communities that are taking this action and this Councillor is requesting it on behalf of our City. (Ref'd 03/08/18) (03/21/18-returned unsigned by the Mayor)

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Gomes, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council to take "No Further Action" on the WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Gomes, requesting, that Mayor Mitchell and City Solicitor McDermott begin the process of filing a lawsuit against the pharmaceutical companies that produce Opioid pain killer medication based on the damage done to our community, the lives lost, the epidemic of overdoses, and the added calls for services from our EMS, POLICE and FIRE DEPARTMENTS, along with the distraction and deterioration of the Cities, people and communities; and further, that the City Solicitor ask the State for records of the pharmaceutical companies that have done business in the area along with records of any area doctors that may have overprescribed Opioid drugs in the greater New Bedford area; this request and lawsuit is similar to other communities that are taking this action and this Councillor is requesting it on behalf of our City. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 1, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lopes, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Lima, no.

IN COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS &  
BRIEFINGS

Councillor Naomi R.A. Carney, Chairperson

NRAC: dmb



# CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

## CITY COUNCIL

March 8, 2018

### WRITTEN MOTION

Requesting, that Mayor Mitchell and City Solicitor McDermott begin the process of filing a lawsuit against the pharmaceutical companies that produce Opioid pain killer medication based on the damage done to our community, the lives lost, the epidemic of overdoses, and the added calls for services from our EMS, POLICE and FIRE DEPARTMENTS, along with the distraction and deterioration of the Cities, people and communities; and further, that the City Solicitor ask the State for records of the pharmaceutical companies that have done business in the area along with records of any area doctors that may have overprescribed Opioid drugs in the greater New Bedford area; this request and lawsuit is similar to other communities that are taking this action and this Councillor is requesting it on behalf of our City.

Brian K. Gomes, Councillor at Large