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**MAYOR KAREN FREEMAN-WILSON ON CAPITOL HILL
ADDRESSES THE NATION'S OPIOID CRISIS**

Gary, Indiana-Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson joined other Mayors this morning in Washington, DC for a National League of Cities (NLC) briefing entitled, "Cities and the Opioid Crisis."

The Mayor participated in the important conversation on a panel of Mayors, who shared their views concerning the Opioid Crisis and discussed the needs of local communities to combat the crisis.

Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson who also serves as the National League of Cities First Vice President said, "The opioid crisis will not go away on its own. As elected officials, we must take action so that our cities can continue to be the foundation of our country, and that action must come from a coordinated effort involving every level of government." "If funding continues to stall at the state and federal levels instead of being fully dispersed to America's most effected cities, we are just treading water."

In May, the NLC hosted a Mayors' Institute on opioids. A report was released shortly after emphasizing state and local strategies to address and mitigate this crisis. ***See link for report in the NLC release attached.***

Freeman-Wilson also met with Senators following the Opioid briefing and participated in a White House meeting while in Washington today.

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