

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 250

Designating June 6, 2023, as National Naloxone Awareness Day.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 13, 2023

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. KELLY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. WARNOCK) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Designating June 6, 2023, as National Naloxone Awareness Day.

Whereas the opioid epidemic continues to devastate communities across the United States, leading to a significant loss of life and widespread societal impact;

Whereas, as of December 2022, opioid overdoses during the previous 12 months claimed a reported 79,770 lives in the United States;

Whereas fatal overdoses are often witnessed by a bystander;

Whereas, in 2022 alone, the Drug Enforcement Administration seized more than 379,000,000 doses of potentially deadly fentanyl, enough to kill every individual in the United States;

Whereas, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, fentanyl-related poisonings are currently the leading cause of death for individuals in the United States between 18 and 49 years of age;

Whereas naloxone is a safe and effective medication that can reverse opioid overdoses and save lives when administered promptly by rapidly reversing the effects of opioids;

Whereas naloxone plays a vital role in preventing long-term brain damage and reducing the risk of fatality associated with opioid overdoses;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has declared naloxone to be a key tool in preventing opioid overdose deaths;

Whereas it is imperative to educate individuals, families, healthcare professionals, and first responders about—

- (1) the benefits of naloxone, including the potential naloxone has to reduce opioid-related fatalities; and
- (2) how to administer naloxone;

Whereas it is imperative to identify current or potential barriers, including cost, for individuals, organizations, and Federal, State, and local governments to obtain and distribute naloxone;

Whereas increasing access to naloxone can ensure that individuals struggling with opioid use disorder have a chance at recovery and a future free from the grip of substance use disorder;

Whereas the Food and Drug Administration took action to authorize the over-the-counter sale of 4 milligram doses of naloxone; and

Whereas recognizing National Naloxone Awareness Day will contribute to the ongoing efforts to educate the public,

reduce stigma associated with substance use disorder, and promote access to lifesaving naloxone: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) designates June 6, 2023, as National
3 Naloxone Awareness Day;

4 (2) recognizes the life-saving benefits of
5 naloxone in reversing opioid overdoses and pre-
6 venting unnecessary deaths;

7 (3) acknowledges that increased access to
8 naloxone empowers individuals, families, healthcare
9 professionals, and first responders to intervene in
10 emergency situations and provide immediate assist-
11 ance to those experiencing an opioid overdose;

12 (4) recognizes that National Naloxone Aware-
13 ness Day serves as an opportunity to educate mem-
14 bers of the public about the importance of recog-
15 nizing the signs of opioid overdose and equipping
16 themselves with naloxone to save lives;

17 (5) encourages Federal, State, and local govern-
18 ments, as well as private and nonprofit organiza-
19 tions, to collaborate and allocate resources toward
20 increasing naloxone access, education, and distribu-
21 tion efforts; and

22 (6) calls upon Federal agencies, including the
23 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Ad-

1 ministration, the Centers for Disease Control and
2 Prevention, the Office of National Drug Control Pol-
3 icy, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and all
4 other Federal agencies engaged in the National
5 Drug Control Strategy of the President to continue
6 supporting public awareness, harm reduction, and
7 overdose and poisoning prevention.

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