

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. _____

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

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Mr. MARKEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

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-
24 ministration, the Centers for Disease Control and

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