
THIRD READING

Bill No: SCR 115
Author: Bates (R), et al.
Amended: 6/9/22
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Drug abuse awareness

SOURCE: California Chiropractic Association

DIGEST: This resolution designates the month of September 2022 as Opioid, Heroin, Fentanyl, and Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month, as specified.

Senate Floor Amendments of 6/9/22 correct a drafting error.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Opioids are drugs that act on the nervous system to conceal pain. In 2020, more than 14,800,000 opioid prescriptions were written in California. From 1999 to 2020, inclusive, over 500,000 people died from overdoses related to opioids in the United States.
- 2) Drug overdoses kill more people in one year than do the number of motor vehicle fatalities in the United States. The number of deaths from fentanyl overdoses jumped by more than 2,100% in California in five years.
- 3) Overdoses of synthetic opioids killed nearly 4,000 residents in California in 2020, with 3,946 attributed to fentanyl, according to the most recent estimate from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the State Department of Public Health. Fentanyl is 50 times more potent than heroin and 100 times more powerful than morphine, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- 4) Aggregate annual costs for prescription opioid overdose, abuse, and dependence were estimated at \$1.02 trillion nationally in 2017, up from \$78.5 billion in 2013.

- 5) Abuse of opioid pain relievers is the strongest risk factor for heroin abuse. Seventy-five percent of new heroin users were first addicted to a legally prescribed prescription opioid.
- 6) Most people who are addicted to opioids cannot taper off, or use less of the drug over time, without help. The long-term damage to individuals and families is highly detrimental.

This resolution designates the month of September 2022 as Opioid, Heroin, Fentanyl, and Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month and encourages residents to show support for opioid and prescription drug awareness.

Comments

According to the author,

In passing this resolution, the Legislature will proclaim September 2022 as Opioid, Heroin, Fentanyl and Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month and would encourage residents to learn more about the dangers of opioid, heroin, fentanyl and prescription drug abuse.

This resolution seeks to educate the state that opioid abuse is more prevalent than it has ever been. Sadly, many providers and insurance companies lack the understanding that non-medicinal care should always be the first type of treatment considered.

Related/Prior Legislation

SCR 64 (Bates, Resolution Chapter 141, Statutes of 2019)) designated the month of September 2019 as Opioid, Heroin, Fentanyl, and Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month.

SCR 68 (Bates, Resolution Chapter 157, Statutes of 2017) designated the month of September 2017 as Opioid, Heroin, Fentanyl, and Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month, as specified.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/8/22)

California Chiropractic Association (source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/8/22)

None received

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6/10/22 11:49:04

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