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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 3

56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2024

INTRODUCED BY

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and John Block

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO DECLARE OCTOBER AS FENTANYL OVERDOSE
PREVENTION AND AWARENESS MONTH.

WHEREAS, fentanyl is a powerful synthetic opioid drug
prescribed for the treatment of extreme pain; and

WHEREAS, fentanyl and fentanyl analogs are found in many
street drugs, and only a small amount can cause an overdose;
and

WHEREAS, illicit fentanyl is showing up in pills, heroin,
methamphetamine and cocaine and causing unprecedented overdose
deaths; and

WHEREAS, overdose due to fentanyl has increased
dramatically, particularly since the coronavirus disease 2019
pandemic began in 2020; and

WHEREAS, naloxone, a life-saving medication, can reverse

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1 overdoses from fentanyl; and

2 WHEREAS, naloxone can be obtained at pharmacies, public
3 health offices, community organizations and through harm
4 reduction services; and

5 WHEREAS, residents of New Mexico can safely administer
6 naloxone to fentanyl overdose victims; and

7 WHEREAS, high schools can keep naloxone in a cabinet for
8 emergencies, and nurses and staff at high schools can be easily
9 trained on the use of naloxone to prevent fentanyl overdoses in
10 schools;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
12 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor be requested to declare
13 October as fentanyl overdose prevention and awareness month;
14 and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
16 transmitted to the governor and the secretary of public
17 education.