

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 685

Designating June 26, 2022 as the “International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 21, 2022

Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. HAWLEY, and Mr. LUJÁN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Designating June 26, 2022 as the “International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking”.

Whereas the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (referred to in this preamble as “UNODC”) estimated that 275,000,000 individuals used illicit drugs worldwide in 2019, a 22 percent increase from 2010;

Whereas UNODC estimated that, globally, 36,300,000 individuals suffered from substance use disorders in 2019;

Whereas the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration reported that, in 2020, 37,300,000 individuals aged 12 or older had used an illicit drug in the United States in the past month, and 41,100,000 individuals

aged 12 or older had needed substance abuse treatment in the past year;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (referred to in this preamble as “CDC”) estimated that more than 107,000 individuals died from drug overdoses in 2021;

Whereas, according to the CDC, synthetic drugs, such as fentanyl and methamphetamine, are among the primary drivers of overdose deaths in the United States;

Whereas CDC data indicates that drug overdose deaths have accelerated during the coronavirus pandemic;

Whereas the National Institute of Drug Abuse estimates that illicit drug use costs the United States \$193,000,000,000 annually in healthcare costs, crime, and lost productivity;

Whereas the Drug Enforcement Administration reports that drug trafficking fuels the drug overdose epidemic in the United States and can lead to violence in communities throughout the country and the world;

Whereas the Department of State reports that the illicit drug trade can undermine the rule-of-law and fuel corruption; and

Whereas the United Nations General Assembly established June 26 as the “International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking”: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) encourages access to prevention, treatment,
3 and recovery programs for individuals with sub-
4 stance use disorders, including access to medication-
5 assisted treatment and telehealth services;

1 (2) commends the efforts of law enforcement
2 agencies and officers to detect, curtail, and prevent
3 drug trafficking and production domestically and
4 internationally;

5 (3) applauds the work of law enforcement agen-
6 cies, prosecutors, defense attorneys, and judges who
7 work to connect individuals with a substance use dis-
8 orders to treatment;

9 (4) supports research into treatments for sub-
10 stance use disorders;

11 (5) encourages greater international cooperation
12 to dismantle drug trafficking organizations and
13 transnational criminal organizations involved in the
14 illicit drug trade;

15 (6) supports efforts to unravel financial net-
16 works that enable the illicit drug trade;

17 (7) calls on other United Nations Member
18 States to mark the “International Day against Drug
19 Abuse and Illicit Trafficking”; and

20 (8) designates June 26, 2022 as the “Inter-
21 national Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Traf-
22 ficking”.

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