

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. _____

Supporting the recognition and goals of Overdose Awareness Day in the
United States.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MARKEY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Supporting the recognition and goals of Overdose Awareness
Day in the United States.

Whereas more than 750,000 individuals in the United States
have died from a drug overdose since 1999;

Whereas substance use disorders and drug overdoses affect
all socioeconomic groups, racial and ethnic groups, geo-
graphic regions, and ages;

Whereas substance use disorders are a chronic disease, and
recognizing those disorders as such decreases stigma and
acknowledges that substance use may be beyond the con-
trol of an individual;

Whereas overdose deaths are preventable, and lives can be
saved through awareness, prevention, intervention, treat-
ment, and recovery support;

Whereas overdose deaths claimed more than 93,000 lives in the United States in 2020, and the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID–19) pandemic has contributed to the acceleration of overdose deaths;

Whereas communities across the United States have been pained by substance use disorders through the premature loss of lives and the stigma associated with drug-related fatalities; and

Whereas numerous States across the United States have lowered their State flags in recognition of Overdose Awareness Day: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) supports the recognition and goals of Over-
3 dose Awareness Day in the United States; and

4 (2) encourages all Federal buildings in the
5 United States to lower their flags to half-staff on
6 August 31 of each year to support awareness of
7 overdoses.