

1 A MEMORIAL

2 DECLARING FEBRUARY 22, 2023 "FENTANYL AWARENESS DAY" IN THE
3 SENATE.

4
5 WHEREAS, Bernalillo county and the city of Albuquerque
6 have partnered to combat the epidemic of fentanyl use and
7 abuse and the subsequent overdose poisonings that have
8 plagued and continue to plague New Mexicans; and

9 WHEREAS, Bernalillo county and the city of Albuquerque
10 partnered in October 2022 to bring public educational
11 awareness to the fentanyl issue by conducting a fentanyl
12 awareness summit, which included and continues to provide a
13 fentanyl awareness media campaign titled keepNMalive; and

14 WHEREAS, Bernalillo county and the city of Albuquerque
15 have established partnering relationships with subject matter
16 experts from multiple fields: medical, harm reduction,
17 judicial, law enforcement, community treatment providers,
18 those with lived experience and community support networks;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, the latest research from the department of
21 health shows that two thousand six hundred forty-two
22 New Mexicans have lost their lives to unintentional overdoses
23 between 2016 and 2020; and

24 WHEREAS, according to the national institute on drug
25 abuse, synthetic opioids, which include fentanyl, were the

1 most common drugs involved in overdose deaths in the
2 United States; and

3 WHEREAS, the department of health notes that
4 fentanyl-involved overdose rates have steadily increased in
5 New Mexico and, in 2020, have accounted for more than
6 one-third of overdose deaths in the state; and

7 WHEREAS, the department of health also notes that in
8 2020, the death rate for fentanyl cases was nearly seven
9 times what it was in 2016; and

10 WHEREAS, no single system, not judicial, law
11 enforcement, treatment services or families, is solely
12 equipped to manage the multifaceted problem of fentanyl use,
13 abuse and addiction; and

14 WHEREAS, the fentanyl epidemic as it exists today
15 requires a collaborative approach to include the legislature,
16 the judicial system, law enforcement, the department of
17 health's harm reduction program, detention facilities,
18 treatment providers, families and members of the community in
19 order to address the complexity of the current situation;

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
21 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that February 22, 2023 be declared
22 "Fentanyl Awareness Day" in the senate; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a collaborative approach to
24 addressing the fentanyl epidemic be supported; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be

1 transmitted to the county manager of Bernalillo county, the
2 mayor of the city of Albuquerque, the secretary of health,
3 the governor and members of the state legislature. _____

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