

CHAPTER 2024-67

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 66

An act relating to Revive Awareness Day; providing a short title; creating s. 683.3342, F.S.; designating June 6 of each year as “Revive Awareness Day”; authorizing the Governor to issue an annual proclamation; encouraging the Department of Health to hold events to raise awareness of the dangers of opioid overdose and the availability and safe use of opioid antagonists as an effective way to rapidly reverse the effects of opioid overdose; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, the opioid epidemic continues to ravage American families across the United States, and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported more than 100,000 overdose deaths in the United States during the 12-month period that ended in February 2023, and

WHEREAS, most of these deaths were caused by illicit synthetic drugs like clandestinely manufactured fentanyl, often in combination with other drugs, and

WHEREAS, in 2021, nearly 71,000 drug overdose deaths involving synthetic opioids occurred in the United States, which was more deaths that year than from any other type of opioid, and

WHEREAS, synthetic-opioid-involved death rates increased by more than 22 percent from 2020 to 2021 and synthetic opioids accounted for nearly 88 percent of all opioid-involved deaths in 2021, and

WHEREAS, by comparison, from 1999 to 2021, nearly 280,000 people died in the United States from overdoses involving prescription opioids, and

WHEREAS, the number of drug overdose deaths involving prescription opioids in 2021 was nearly five times the number in 1999, and

WHEREAS, in 2021, an average of 45 people died each day from a prescription opioid overdose, for a total of nearly 17,000 deaths, and

WHEREAS, in 2021, nearly 21 percent of all opioid overdose deaths involved prescription opioids, and

WHEREAS, 60 percent of all opioid overdose deaths occur in the home, and

WHEREAS, in 67 percent of opioid overdose deaths, another person was present at the time and witnessed the death, and

WHEREAS, opioid antagonists are a safe, powerful medication that can reverse opioid-related overdoses and prevent overdose deaths, and

WHEREAS, in 2023, in a historic action, the United States Food and Drug Administration approved naloxone nasal spray as the first over-the-counter opioid antagonist, and

WHEREAS, most Americans remain unaware of the safety, availability, and efficacy of opioid antagonists as a life-saving treatment for opioid overdose, and

WHEREAS, the national advocacy efforts of David Siegel and Jackie Siegel are recognized as they advocate for widespread availability of opioid antagonists through the Victoria’s Voice Foundation, named in honor of their daughter, who died from an accidental overdose, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. This act may be cited as “Victoria’s Law.”

Section 2. Section 683.3342, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

683.3342 Revive Awareness Day.—

(1) June 6 of each year is designated as “Revive Awareness Day.”

(2) The Governor may issue an annual proclamation designating June 6 as “Revive Awareness Day.”

(3) The Department of Health is encouraged to hold events to raise awareness of the dangers of opioid overdose and the availability and safe use of opioid antagonists as an effective way to rapidly reverse the effects of opioid overdose.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor April 8, 2024.

Filed in Office Secretary of State April 8, 2024.