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S.R. No. 719

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Fentanyl Victims Remembrance Day is taking place on  
2 September 23, 2023; and

3 WHEREAS, A highly addictive synthetic opioid, fentanyl has  
4 fueled an alarming increase in overdose deaths, and it has impacted  
5 communities across the nation, from large metropolitan areas to  
6 rural counties; among Americans under the age of 50, the drug is  
7 involved in a greater number of deaths than any other cause, proving  
8 more lethal than cancer, heart disease, homicide, or suicide; as  
9 little as two milligrams of fentanyl is a potentially deadly dose,  
10 especially for individuals who do not have a tolerance to opioids;  
11 and

12 WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and  
13 Prevention, synthetic opioids such as fentanyl were involved in  
14 67 percent of the more than 107,000 drug overdose and drug  
15 poisoning deaths in the 12-month period ending in January 2022; in  
16 some cases, the deaths were attributed to fentanyl mixed with other  
17 substances, and many users were unaware that they were taking  
18 fentanyl; and

19 WHEREAS, Each year, September 23 is set aside to honor and  
20 remember all victims who tragically lost their lives to fentanyl  
21 poisoning, to encourage support for their loved ones, and to warn  
22 the public about the dangers posed by the drug; the observance is  
23 led by fentanyl awareness organizations, community response teams,  
24 and affected families; and

1           WHEREAS, More work remains to be done to assist the  
2 individuals and communities impacted by fentanyl use, and Fentanyl  
3 Victims Remembrance Day provides a fitting opportunity to affirm  
4 our commitment to combatting this deadly drug threat; now,  
5 therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature  
7 hereby recognize September 23, 2023, as Fentanyl Victims  
8 Remembrance Day and pay tribute to the memory of all those who have  
9 died from fentanyl poisoning.