

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS JULIA MEJIA, BREADON, COLETTA ZAPATA, DURKAN,
FERNANDES ANDERSON, FITZGERALD, FLYNN, MURPHY, PEPÉN, SANTANA, WEBER,
WORRELL AND LOUIJEUNE



**CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF FENTANYL
PREVENTION AND AWARENESS DAY ON AUGUST 21, 2024**

- WHEREAS,*** Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is up to 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine, and its misuse has led to an alarming rise in both overdose deaths and fentanyl poisonings across the United States; *and*
- WHEREAS,*** Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day, observed on August 21, aims to raise public awareness about the dangers of fentanyl and promote preventative strategies, all while educating the public and supporting those affected; *and*
- WHEREAS,*** This day provides an opportunity to honor the memory of those lost to fentanyl poisonings, support grieving families, and advocate for effective legislation in our state and programs within our communities to prevent future tragedies; *and*
- WHEREAS,*** Synthetic opioids, primarily fentanyl and its analogues, are major contributors to unsuspecting fatal poisonings in our city and across the United States. In 2023, Massachusetts reported 2,125 fatal opioid-related overdose deaths; *and*
- WHEREAS,*** Illicitly manufactured fentanyl is impossible to detect, posing significant risks to the health and safety of individuals. According to the DEA, 305 lives are lost daily across the United States to fentanyl poisonings. Based on CDC data, 74,702 of the 107,543 drug overdose deaths in the United States in 2023 were related to fentanyl; *and*
- WHEREAS,*** Collaborative efforts between healthcare professionals, law enforcement, community organizations, and policymakers are essential to developing comprehensive strategies to address the fentanyl epidemic, ensuring a multifaceted approach for prevention, treatment, and support; ***NOW THEREFORE BE IT***
- RESOLVED,*** The Boston City Council recognizes August 21, 2024, as Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day in the City of Boston in support of the goals and ideals of promoting preventative measures and raising awareness.

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