

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR MICHAEL FLAHERTY, ERIN MURPHY,
ARROYO, BAKER, BREADON, COLETTA, DURKAN, LARA, LOUIJEUNE,
MEJIA, WORRELL AND FLYNN



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AUGUST 31, 2023 AS
OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

WHEREAS, OPIOID RELATED DEATHS HAVE REACHED AN ALL TIME HIGH IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS AND THE CITY OF BOSTON; *and*

WHEREAS, BOSTON IS THE EPICENTER FOR THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC AS THE CITY DRAWS AN INFLUX OF PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER NEW ENGLAND; *and*

WHEREAS, BOSTON HAD THE MOST OPIOID RELATED DEATHS AND MORE OPIOID RELATED DEATHS LAST YEAR THAN THE CITIES OF SPRINGFIELD AND WORCESTER COMBINED; *and*

WHEREAS, NINE OF THE FOURTEEN COUNTIES IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, INCLUDING SUFFOLK COUNTY, HAVE A HIGHER AVERAGE OF OPIOID RELATED DEATHS THAN THE NATIONAL AVERAGE; *and*

WHEREAS, THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS RANKS SIXTH IN THE COUNTRY IN OVERDOSE DEATH RATES; *and*

WHEREAS, SOME OF THE MAIN GOALS OF INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY ARE TO INFORM THE PUBLIC OF THE RISK OF DRUG OVERDOSE, MOURN THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES TO ADDICTION AND SEND A STRONG MESSAGE THAT PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS AND ARE IN RECOVERY ARE VALUED.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council, in meeting assembled, recognizes August 31, 2023, as Overdose Awareness Day in the City of Boston.

Filed on: August 30, 2023