

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017

HR 1003

4
5 By: Representative Boyd
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7 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

8 TO ENCOURAGE CONTINUED COLLABORATION BETWEEN
9 HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS, LAW ENFORCEMENT, EDUCATORS,
10 PUBLIC OFFICIALS, AND THE ARKANSAS COMMUNITY IN
11 BATTLING THE ABUSE OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS IN ARKANSAS.
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14 **Subtitle**

15 TO ENCOURAGE CONTINUED COLLABORATION
16 BETWEEN HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS, LAW
17 ENFORCEMENT, EDUCATORS, PUBLIC OFFICIALS,
18 AND THE ARKANSAS COMMUNITY IN BATTLING
19 THE ABUSE OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS IN
20 ARKANSAS.
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22
23 WHEREAS, in 2010, Arkansas had the 25th highest drug overdose mortality
24 rate in the United States, with twelve and five-tenths (12.5) per one hundred
25 thousand (100,000) people suffering drug overdose fatalities and prescription
26 drugs are most frequently named in drug-related death certificates; and
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28 WHEREAS, prescription drug overdoses account for at least one (1) death
29 per day in Arkansas; and
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31 WHEREAS, the number of drug overdose deaths in Arkansas, a majority of
32 which are from prescription drugs, has more than doubled since 1999 when the
33 rate was four and four-tenths (4.4) per one hundred thousand (100,000)
34 people; and
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36 WHEREAS, Arkansas ranks 5th in the nation in the percentage of people



1 twelve (12) years of age or older who used prescription pain relievers for
2 nonmedical purposes in 2012-2013, with twenty-two percent(22%) of high school
3 students taking prescription drugs without a doctor's prescription in 2008;
4 and
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6 WHEREAS, in 2010, Arkansas had the nation's 12th highest rate of
7 prescription painkillers sold; and
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9 WHEREAS, the misuse of prescription drugs can have dire consequences,
10 and the rapid rise of abuse requires a full-scale response from healthcare
11 providers, law enforcement, educators, public officials, and the Arkansas
12 community; and
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14 WHEREAS, the people of Arkansas have a duty to educate our communities,
15 protect our medications at home, properly dispose of unwanted or unneeded
16 medications, promote responsible prescribing and dispensing of prescription
17 medications, encourage proper safeguarding of prescription medication
18 inventories, and help those struggling to overcome prescription drug
19 addictions,
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21 NOW THEREFORE,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIRST GENERAL
23 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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25 THAT the House of Representatives encourages the continued
26 collaboration between healthcare providers, law enforcement, educators,
27 public officials, and the Arkansas community in battling the abuse of
28 prescription drugs in Arkansas.
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, upon its adoption, a copy of this
31 resolution be presented by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives
32 to:

33 (1) Diane S. Skaggs, Executive Director of the Mental Health
34 Council of Arkansas;

35 (2) Dr. Carol Baxter, Executive Director of Recovery Centers of
36 Arkansas;

1 (3) Dr. Bradley Diner, Medical Director of the Arkansas Medical
2 Foundation;

3 (4) Dr. Michael J. Mancino, Associate Professor in the
4 Department of Psychiatry and Program Director for the Substance Abuse
5 Treatment Clinic at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences;

6 (4) Dr. Carlos Roman, Director of Pain Management at St. Vincent
7 Health System and Chair of the Arkansas State Medical Board Pain Management
8 Review Committee;

9 (5) Laurie A. Reh, Arkansas Region 1 Prevention Service
10 Representative;

11 (6) Hayse Miller, Arkansas Region 8 Prevention Service
12 Representative;

13 (7) Denny Altes, Arkansas State Drug Director;

14 (8) The Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care;

15 (9) The Arkansas Center for Health Improvement;

16 (10) The Arkansas Hospital Association;

17 (11) The Attorney General;

18 (12) The Arkansas Association of Chiefs of Police;

19 (13) The Arkansas Sheriffs' Association;

20 (14) The Arkansas State Medical Board;

21 (15) The Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy;

22 (16) The Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners;

23 (17) The Arkansas State Board of Nursing; and

24 (18) The Arkansas State Board of Optometry.

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