

House Resolution 1281

By: Representatives Hugley of the 141st, Reese of the 140th, and Buckner of the 137th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing October 23, 2024, as Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day for Georgia
2 Students; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Red Ribbon Campaign is the oldest, largest drug prevention program in the
4 United States, and Red Ribbon Week, held annually October 23 through 31, is a time when
5 schools and communities focus on young people living safe, healthy, and drug-free lives; and

6 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Public Health reports that from 2019 to 2021, the
7 total number of opioid-related overdose deaths increased from 853 to 1,718, and more than
8 half were attributed to fentanyl; and

9 WHEREAS, fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is 50 times more potent than heroin and 100
10 times more potent than morphine, and is inexpensive, widely available, and highly addictive,
11 and comes in a variety of colors, shapes, and forms; and

12 WHEREAS, many colleges and universities are making naloxone, an antidote for opioid
13 poisoning, accessible on campus at clinics and counseling centers, the campus police, or in
14 vending machines in resident halls; and

15 WHEREAS, fentanyl use and abuse are happening at middle schools and high schools, and
16 the best way to protect kids from substance use and abuse is having regular and open
17 conversations to educate them about the risks, dangers, and effects of fentanyl use and abuse;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, fentanyl overdoses are happening at middle schools and high schools, and the
20 best way to counter an overdose is raising awareness of the symptoms of an overdose,
21 offering students a safe space to seek help, and having naloxone readily available at the
22 school nurse's office; and

23 WHEREAS, on Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day for Georgia Students and
24 throughout the year, Georgia policymakers can and should make it their number one priority
25 to encourage all Georgia students to live safe, healthy, and drug-free lives by providing for
26 educational materials and overdose prevention kits at middle schools and high schools.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
28 the members of this body do hereby recognize October 23, 2024, as Fentanyl Prevention and
29 Awareness Day for Georgia Students.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
31 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
32 public and the press.