

RESOLUTION

A resolution supporting the goals of ending opioid abuse, advancing utilization of drug-free chiropractic care, and designating September 2017 as Drug-Free Pain Management Month.

Whereas, prescription opioid use and abuse leading to addiction and catastrophic outcomes has become a national crisis;

Whereas the leading cause of injury death in the United States is drug overdose, and a majority of the deaths from drug overdose deaths involved an opioid;

Whereas from 1999 to 2014, more than 165,000 people --- three times the U.S. military deaths during the twenty years of the Vietnam War -- have died in the U.S. from overdoses related to prescription opioids;

Whereas we are losing ninety-one people a day from opioid overdoses and thirty-three thousand people died from opioid overdoses in the US in 2015;

Whereas overdoses from prescription opioids — drugs like oxycodone, hydrocodone, Percocet and methadone - are a driving factor in the 15-year increase in opioid overdose deaths;

Whereas “Four out of five heroin abusers started with prescription pain killers.” - Marc Siegel, MD, NYU Langone Medical Center, Fox News Medical Correspondent, *American Opioid Epidemic*, [Wall Street Journal](#), March 28, 2017;

Whereas the newest estimates on the cost of opioid abuse to U.S. employers is estimated at \$18 billion in sick days, lost productivity and medical expenses;

Whereas prescription opioids are often recommended for low back, neck, and musculoskeletal pain management;

Whereas over 100 million suffer with chronic pain and an estimated 75 to 85 percent of all American will experience some form of back pain during their life time;

Whereas doctors of chiropractic are educated and trained to effectively address spinal and skeletal pain with non-surgical, non-drug management;

Whereas numerous published studies document chiropractic manipulation as effective for the management of neck and back pain;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, That September 2017 be declared Drug-Free Pain Management Month, to raise public awareness that chiropractic care is the primary first-line, non-pharmacologic approach to safely and effectively relieve acute, subacute and chronic pain.