

111TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. RES. 539

Designating May 24, 2010, as “Prescription Drug Disposal Awareness Day”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 24, 2010

Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. KOHL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Designating May 24, 2010, as “Prescription Drug Disposal Awareness Day”.

Whereas in 2008, pharmacies in the United States filled 3,649,468,866 retail drug prescriptions;

Whereas in 2008, approximately 15,200,000 Americans 12 years of age and older reported having taken a prescription drug that had not been prescribed to them for recreational purposes in the previous year;

Whereas in 2006, approximately 26,400 deaths occurred in the United States from an unintentional drug overdose;

Whereas prescription drugs are involved in more overdose deaths annually than illegal drugs;

Whereas in 2007 and 2008, 55.9 percent of individuals 12 years of age and older who used pain relievers nonmedi-

cally in the past year had obtained the pain relievers from a friend or relative for free;

Whereas in 2007 and 2008, of the individuals 12 years of age and older who obtained nonmedical pain relievers from a friend or relative for free—

(1) 81.7 percent indicated that the friend or relative had obtained the drugs from just 1 doctor; and

(2) 1.6 percent reported that the friend or relative had bought the drugs from a drug dealer or other stranger;

Whereas the improper disposal of prescription drugs may result in chemicals contaminating the environment and water supply; and

Whereas collection programs may reduce the supply of unused, unwanted prescription drugs in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) designates May 24, 2010, as “Prescription
3 Drug Disposal Awareness Day”;

4 (2) recognizes the importance of prescription
5 drug disposal programs to reduce the supply of un-
6 used, unwanted prescription drugs in the United
7 States; and

8 (3) encourages each State to establish and pro-
9 mote a prescription drug collection program.

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