

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the state of Missouri to implement a prescription drug database.

WHEREAS, on average 15.7 million people age 12 or older misused prescription drugs between 2005 and 2011; and

WHEREAS, 15.0 percent of high school seniors throughout the United States abused a prescription drug in 2013; and

WHEREAS, nearly 60 percent of all drug overdose deaths involved pharmaceutical drugs in 2010; and

WHEREAS, opioid analgesics such as oxycodone, hydrocodone, and methadone were involved in almost three of every four pharmaceutical overdose deaths in 2013; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky enacted the Kentucky All Schedule Prescription Electronic Reporting System (KASPER) drug tracking system which tracks all controlled substances purchased to reduce the misuse of prescription drugs in Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, the KASPER drug tracking system has aided law enforcement officials and the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure in locating physicians and patients who are enabling prescription drug abuse; and

WHEREAS, 49 states in the United States have enacted a prescription drug database to identify people who are acquiring excess prescription drugs and the physicians who are distributing those prescription drugs; and

WHEREAS, Missouri is the only state in the United States to have not implemented a prescription drug database; and

WHEREAS, prescription drug databases can be utilized for a variety of purposes, including determining the prevalence of medical and nonmedical uses of controlled pharmaceuticals, detecting patients at risk of drug abuse at an early stage and allowing for early intervention, enabling healthcare providers to avoid prescribing duplicate medications, and allowing law enforcement officials to limit drug diversions within communities, protecting overall public health; and

WHEREAS, the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Center of Excellence at Brandeis University has reported that prescription drug database participation has decreased doctor shopping and the prevalence of certain controlled substances; and

WHEREAS, overall dispensing of controlled substances has declined by 8.5 percent in Kentucky from 7.39 million doses in August 2011 to July 2012 to 6.76 million doses in August 2012 to July 2013 after legislation was passed to require enrollment in and use of KASPER; and

WHEREAS, the number of new prescriptions for the following controlled substances has declined: hydrocodone by 10.3 percent, oxycodone by 11.6 percent, oxymorphone by 35 percent, and alprazolam by 13.4 percent during that time frame; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's related requirement of enrollment in the state's prescription drug monitoring program has resulted in a decline of opioid prescriptions by over 7 percent, as well as led to a 36 percent decline in the number of individuals meeting a threshold for doctor shopping; and

WHEREAS, the New York Times has reported that Express Scripts, a company that processes prescriptions for 90 million Americans, found that the residents of Missouri's eight neighboring states regularly travel into Missouri to fill their prescriptions, indicating a desire to avoid those states' drug monitoring programs; and

WHEREAS, the United States has a prescription drug abuse problem that does not appear to be dissipating in the near future;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:

➔Section 1. The House of Representatives urges Missouri's State Legislature to implement a prescription drug database as soon as possible to assist in combating the prescription drug abuse epidemic that the United States is facing.

➔Section 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to send copies

of this Resolution to Missouri Governor Jeremiah "Jay" Nixon, State Capitol Building, 201 West Capitol Avenue, Room 216, P.O. Box 720, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101; Missouri Lieutenant Governor Peter Kinder, State Capitol Building, 201 West Capitol Avenue, Room 224, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101; Missouri Senate President Pro Tem Tom Dempsey, State Capitol Building, 201 West Capitol Avenue, Room 326, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101; and Missouri House Speaker Timothy Jones, State Capitol Building, 201 West Capitol Avenue, Room 308, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101.