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MOTION

The Opioid crisis is one of the biggest humanitarian crises of our time affecting communities across the Country. Last year, over 110,000 people lost their lives as a result of a drug overdose. This equates to over 300 people per day in the United States falling victim to this crisis.


Here in Los Angeles County 3,092 people have lost their lives to overdose. That is eight people a day that do not survive. In the City of Los Angeles Westlake, a community near Downtown Los Angeles, witnessed 83 people pass away last year from an overdose. A community that is over 70 percent Latinos, over 15 percent Asian, and nearly 4 percent Black, where over 65 percent of the residents of the community are born outside of the United States, most notably Mexico and El Salvador, it is clear that communities of Color are disproportionately impacted by the opioid crisis.

In the last year, there were 6,821 overdoses reversed in Los Angeles due to the training and education that has been made available to the residents in our City.

Although there has been great success in the harm reduction space with overdose reversal products, it is important that the city also focus on prevention measures. There has been incredible innovation in the harm reduction space with the release of a handheld device that requires zero training, and is developed to help people test substances prior to use to determine if they are safe or not. There are companies that produce an all-in-one fentanyl detection device that combines all the needed components to test for fentanyl. The device prevents overdoses before they happen. Having these kits accessible to all Los Angeles residents, in conjunction with overdose reversal efforts and solutions, will save countless lives.

I THEREFORE MOVE the Council INSTRUCTS the Office of Procurement, in partnership with the Chief Legislative Analyst, City Administrative Officer, and General Services Department, to report to Council on a pilot program for the distribution of an all-in-one fentanyl detection devices that can be distributed to residents throughout Los Angeles at no cost and funded through the Opioid Settlement funding.

PRESENTED BY:


MONICA RODRIGUEZ
Councilwoman, 7th District

SECONDED BY:



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