

## 1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing May 2026 as "Nonopioid  
3 Alternatives Awareness Month" in Florida.  
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5 WHEREAS, on June 25, 2024, the United States Secretary of  
6 Health and Human Services, Xavier Becerra, renewed the  
7 nationwide Opioid Public Health Emergency Declaration, and

8 WHEREAS, in response to the opioid crisis facing Florida,  
9 the Legislature has adopted a broad, multipronged strategy that  
10 involves law enforcement, public health, treatment access, and  
11 community recovery efforts, and

12 WHEREAS, the opioid overdose epidemic is a complex problem,  
13 since opioids as a class of drugs include not only illegal drugs  
14 such as heroin, but also legal drugs prescribed for pain  
15 management, and

16 WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and  
17 Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics, more than  
18 107,000 lives were lost from drug-involved overdoses in 2022,  
19 with over 75 percent of drug overdose deaths involving opioids  
20 and nearly 308,000 overdose deaths from 1999 to 2022 involving  
21 prescription opioids, and

22 WHEREAS, the rate of drug overdose deaths among African  
23 Americans has continued to rise, from 44.2 deaths per 100,000  
24 people in 2021 to 47.5 in 2022, and

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25 WHEREAS, in 2022, the Centers for Disease Control and  
26 Prevention issued an updated guidance emphasizing the  
27 effectiveness of nonopioid therapies for many common types of  
28 pain and recommending that clinicians maximize the use of such  
29 therapies, which do not carry the same risks as opioids, NOW,  
30 THEREFORE,

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32 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
33 Florida:

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35 That May 2026 is designated as "Nonopioid Alternatives  
36 Awareness Month" in Florida to increase awareness of the danger  
37 associated with opioids and the effectiveness of nonopioid  
38 therapies as an alternative for pain management.