

[~118HCR67]



(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. _____

Supporting the designation of the week of September 22 through September 28, 2024, as “National Fall Prevention Awareness Week” to raise awareness about, and encourage the prevention of, falls among older adults.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Supporting the designation of the week of September 22 through September 28, 2024, as “National Fall Prevention Awareness Week” to raise awareness about, and encourage the prevention of, falls among older adults.

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), there are approximately 14,000,000 falls among older adults over age 65 each year;

Whereas these falls result in approximately 3,000,000 emergency room visits each year;

Whereas falls among older adults cause 39,000 largely preventable deaths annually;

Whereas more than 1 out of 4 older adults in the United States falls each year;

Whereas falls are the leading cause of injury and injury-related deaths among adults aged 65 and older each year;

Whereas, beyond the loss of life and independence, the CDC reports that the total direct medical cost of fall-related injuries for older adults is approximately \$80,000,000,000 annually, including approximately \$53,300,000,000 paid by Medicare, approximately \$3,500,000,000 paid by Medicaid, and approximately \$23,200,000,000 paid by private and out-of-pocket payors;

Whereas many falls could be prevented by addressing modifiable biological, behavioral, and environmental risk factors;

Whereas evidence-based programs reduce falls by utilizing cost-effective strategies, such as exercise programs to improve balance and strength, medication management, vision improvement, reduction of home hazards, and fall prevention education; and

Whereas the designation of the week of September 22 through September 28, 2024, as “National Fall Prevention Awareness Week” would help increase awareness of falls among older adults, how to identify and reduce fall risks, and how to prevent falls among older adults: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That Congress—

3 (1) supports the designation of “National Fall
4 Prevention Awareness Week”;

1 (2) recognizes that there are proven, cost-effective
2 fall prevention programs and policies;

3 (3) supports the work of Federal, State, and
4 local government entities, including the Centers for
5 Disease Control and Prevention, the Administration
6 for Community Living, the Department of Housing
7 and Urban Development, and other Federal agencies,
8 local community-based organizations, the public
9 health community, health care providers, businesses,
10 and individuals who work collaboratively to address
11 risk factors that contribute to falls among older
12 adults in the United States; and

13 (4) encourages continued efforts to reduce and
14 prevent falls and supports Federal investments in
15 fall prevention programs.