

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

May 14, 2019

Proclaiming May 12-18, 2019 National Prevention Week

National Prevention Week is observed annually during the third week in May to increase public awareness of, and action around, substance abuse and mental health issues. National Prevention Week is held during an important time of year for schools, communities, and health service providers to focus on the investments and benefits of prevention. On average, more adolescents and full-time college students use substances for the first time at the end of the school year, in June and July. This is a key period of social transition which poses risks for youth substance use, and is an opportunity for Los Angeles County to raise awareness and further strengthen efforts to share critical prevention messages.

Throughout the year, the Department of Public Health invests in prevention strategies by supporting a network of community-based organizations with a mission to reduce underage and binge drinking, decrease marijuana availability among youth,

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prevent prescription and over-the-counter medication misuse, and establish community conditions and norms that lead to healthier lives and safer communities.

Especially this week, we invite schools, colleges, universities, communities, organizations, along with public officials and County employees to come together to raise awareness about the risks of underage drinking, marijuana, and other drug use; to equip youth with the best information to make healthy and safe decisions about alcohol and drug use; and to take action to reduce the impact of mental and substance use disorders in communities across Los Angeles County.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors proclaim May 12-18, 2019 as National Prevention Week in the County of Los Angeles.