

February 27, 2025

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dick Durbin
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

We, the undersigned organizations, write to express our strong support for the *HIDTA Enhancement Act of 2025*, led by Senators Mark Kelly (D-AZ), Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV), Marsha Blackburn (R-TN), and Amy Klobuchar (D-MN). This important legislation provides law enforcement with the necessary resources to address and mitigate the prevalence of fentanyl in communities nationwide, helping to fight against the ongoing opioid crisis and save countless lives.

In 2023, nearly 107,000 Americans died from a drug overdose, with over 74,000 deaths being from synthetic opioids like fentanyl.¹ Countless communities and families nationwide have been torn apart due to the ongoing opioid epidemic, which has been exacerbated by the continued prevalence and availability of fentanyl and fentanyl-related substances in jurisdictions nationwide.

The *HIDTA Enhancement Act* would help address this problem by:

- Reauthorizing the HIDTA program at an increased amount from 2025 through 2030;
- Increasing competitive grant funding and expanding the allowable use of grant funds to include activities around fentanyl prevention, seizure, and interdiction;
- Direct the Attorney General to coordinate with each individual HIDTA's Executive Boards in ensuring sufficient resources available for investigating and prosecuting fentanyl-related cases; and
- Require a report from ONDCP regarding the use of HIDTA funds for investigating fentanyl and fentanyl-related substances.

We respectfully urge you to advance this important bill, which will ensure that law enforcement agencies have the resources needed to effectively address the presence of fentanyl and fentanyl-related substances in jurisdictions across the country and to help alleviate the harms of the opioid crisis facing our country.

Thank you for your leadership in advancing justice and public safety. We are grateful for your tireless work and dedication to keeping our communities safe and healthy.

¹ Center for Disease Control/National Center for Health Statistics. (2024, August 14). *Provisional Drug Overdose Death Counts*. <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/drug-overdose-data.htm>

Sincerely,

1. Addiction Policy Forum
2. All Rise
3. BHcare, Alliance for Prevention & Wellness
4. Business Solutions Consortium
5. CJC/WD Center LLC
6. Community Action for Safe Teens
7. Crawford County Public Health
8. Delaware County Community Partnership
9. Drug Free America Foundation, Inc.
10. Holon Health, Inc.
11. Hope for a Drug Free Stephens
12. Huntington QRT
13. McLennan County Specialty Courts
14. Mississippi Society of Addiction Medicine
15. Montgomery County Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health, Inc.
16. NACoA - National Association for Children Impacted by Addiction
17. National Association of Social Workers
18. National District Attorneys Association
19. Power Forward, Inc.
20. Prevention Support Services
21. Strengthening the Mid-Atlantic for Tomorrow (SMART)
22. Suncoast Institute on Chemical Dependency
23. THE RESt Organization
24. Trumbull County Mental Health & Recovery Board and ASAP (Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention) Coalition
25. WestCare
26. WV Drug Intervention Institute