



December 11, 2019

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Sen. Lindsey Graham
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
290 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Sen. Diane Feinstein
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: S. 2701 – Federal Initiative to Guarantee Health by Targeting (FIGHT) Fentanyl Act

Dear Senators Graham and Feinstein,

We write today to offer our collective support for S. 2701, the Federal Initiative to Guarantee Health by Targeting (FIGHT) Fentanyl Act.

As you are likely aware, the Drug Enforcement Agency’s (DEA) temporary order classifying fentanyl-related compounds as Schedule I drugs is set to expire on February 6, 2020. The FIGHT Fentanyl Act would codify this temporary order, keeping fentanyl-related substances classified as Schedule I drugs.

In the most recent data available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there were 72,000 drug-related deaths in the United States in 2017. Of those deaths, roughly 40% involved fentanyl or a fentanyl-related compound.

Just last month, a coalition of local, state, and federal agencies in Ohio intercepted over 20 kilograms of fentanyl, 1.5 kilograms of methamphetamine, and half a kilogram of heroin. Further testing revealed that the 20 kilograms of fentanyl were laced with carfentanil, which can be over 100 times more potent than fentanyl. The potency of the fentanyl-related substances in this single bust was enough to kill every man, woman, and child in the state of Ohio several times over.

This legislation is crucial to federal and state efforts to curb the opioid epidemic nationally and within each individual state. It is for these reasons that we commend Senators Portman and Manchin for their leadership in bringing forward this important legislation, and we urge you to take up and pass S. 2701 before the DEA’s temporary order expires.

Yours,

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Twelfth Floor
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Phone: (202) 326-6000
<http://www.naag.org/>



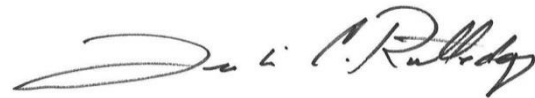
Dana Nessel
Michigan Attorney General



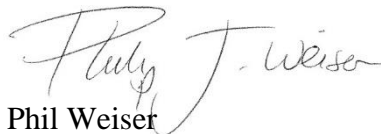
Steve Marshall
Alabama Attorney General



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American Samoa Attorney General



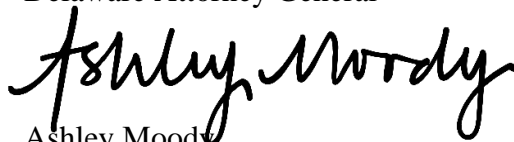
Leslie Rutledge
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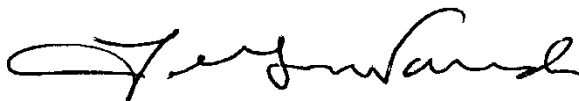
Kathleen Jennings
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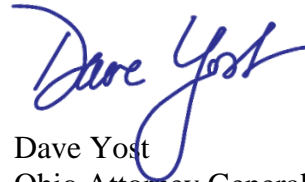
Ashley Moody
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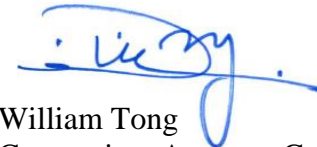
Kevin G. Clarkson
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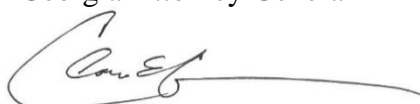
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Christopher M. Carr
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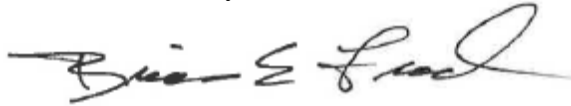
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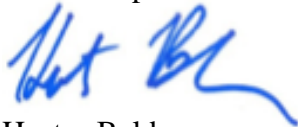
Eric S. Schmitt
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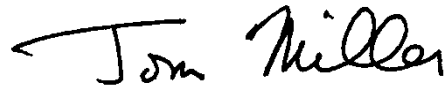
Douglas Peterson
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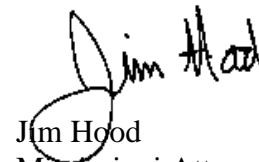
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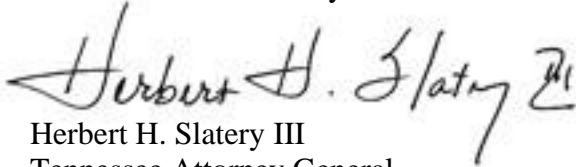
Ellen F. Rosenblum
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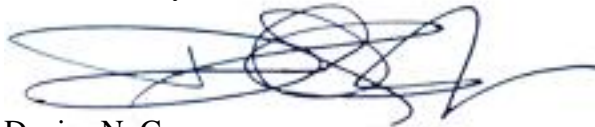
Alan Wilson
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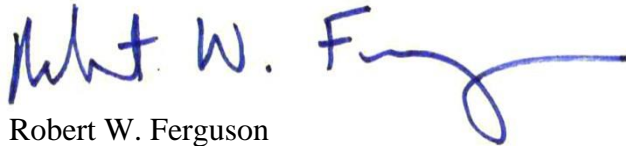
Herbert H. Slatery III
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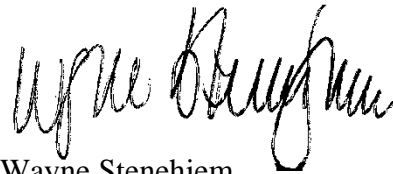
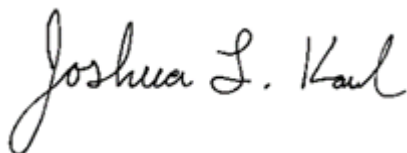
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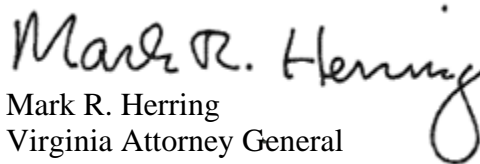
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Bridget Hill
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Cc: Senator Rob Portman
Senator Joe Manchin