



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF POLICE ASSOCIATIONS

THE ONLY UNION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

SAM A. CABRAL
International President

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January 6, 2020

The Honorable Blaine Luetkemeyer
United States House of Representatives
2230 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Luetkemeyer:

On behalf of the International Union of Police Associations, I am proud to support your thoughtful and critical legislation, **H.R. 5241, "Stopping Illicit Fentanyl Trafficking Act"**.

The opioid epidemic is devastating this nation. Far more Americans are dying of opioids than are being killed by any other means. This number is steadily rising dramatically.

Fentanyl is one of the main killers, being 100 times stronger than heroin. It is often mixed with other drugs, unbeknown to the user and resulting in an overdose. Law Enforcement and EMT personnel are daily saving lives with Narcan where it is readily available. Additionally, Public Safety workers have also suffered overdoses by coming into contact with the substance.

Currently, illicit drug manufacturers are designing and creating fentanyl analogs which have the same result, but which are more difficult to prosecute under current law. Your legislation would set in place processes that would eliminate the cat and mouse game currently being played out.

We applaud you for introducing this lifesaving legislation and look forward to working with you and your staff to see it move forward.

Very Respectfully,

Sam A. Cabral
International President