




**LOST VOICES OF FENTANYL**  
The days of crying behind closed doors are over!

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## **LOST VOICES OF FENTANYL**

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February 13,2025

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin,

My name is April, I lost my son Austen at the age of 25 to illicit fentanyl, he thought he was buying cocaine, but he died from illicit fentanyl. When a person hides or disguises a harmful substance in anything for another person to consume without their knowledge and it causes death or harm that is the very definition of a poisoning. I was only 46 when my son died, I thought to myself what if I live till 80 or older, how in the world am I to survive that long without my son here in this world. I wanted to die but instead I decided to live for the living and warn the world of the dangers of this poison flooding our Nation, killing our future generation at alarming numbers. It is a sad day in America when I write a letter like this to plead with our politicians to do what is right for Americans and pass the HALF FENTANYL ACT now, today with no amendments! You have no time to waste as this crisis has been destroying families across our nation for over a decade. We need fentanyl and fentanyl related substances to be a permanent schedule 1 drug. Our law enforcement and CBP need these tools so they can keep lethal drugs off our streets, we can't allow fentanyl related substances to become

street legal. With a tweak of the molecule, we have a never-ending supply of fentanyl analogs, and they are sold for more than 100X the cost to make. That is why the time is dire, the House passed the bill as is and I'm begging as a bereaved mother for the Senate to do the same. Half a million Americans are already dead, how many more will die? Illicit fentanyl only takes 2 milligrams to potentially kill a person, and its analogs are even more lethal. Typing that I ask, what if a bunch of Senators kids died, would this conversation even be happening?

Sincerely,

April Babcock founder/President

Lost Voices of Fentanyl

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