

February 18, 2025

Senator Chuck Grassley
Senator Dick Durbin

RE: HALT Act

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking
Member Durbin,

On June 20, 2020, my daughter,
Shawna, was found deceased on her
bedroom floor by her son, Isaiah. We
later learned from her toxicology report
and the investigation that she died of
acute fentanyl toxicity from a pill she took
that she believed was percocet. She
obtained said pill from an acquaintance
who is now in prison for 3rd degree
murder. The toll of losing her has taken
a toll on my family that is beyond
describing. Her son suffers from the

trauma of finding her, coupled by the fact that it was his 20th birthday. Her siblings and nieces and nephews miss her terribly. A parent is not supposed to bury their child, it should be the other way around. The grief does not go away, it is with you always and

Since then, I have joined many groups to combat and educate on illicit fentanyl.

Yet the numbers of those we are losing continues to remain way too high. That is why I urge you to pass the HALT Act without amendments so it can go to President Trump's desk for his signature. Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Respectfully,

Julie Baumgard, mom to Shawna forever

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