

NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION



January 21, 2025

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
U.S. Senate
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Senator Grassley:

On behalf of the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA), representing 3,081 sheriffs and over 20,000 public safety professionals - including deputies, chiefs of police, and other law enforcement officials across the United States – we write to support the Protecting First Responders from Secondary Exposure Act.

The men and women in law enforcement put their lives at risk to ensure the safety of our communities. In return, first responders should be provided with the tools and resources they need to safeguard their health and well-being while performing their selfless duties.

This legislation establishes a federal program to assist state and local governments in purchasing containment devices, which are essential for safely storing fentanyl and other hazardous substances while preserving them for evidentiary purposes. It also provides training to reduce the risk of secondary exposure to these potentially lethal substances. Accidental exposure to fentanyl and other dangerous drugs can occur during daily routines, putting first responders at significant risk.

By equipping law enforcement with containment devices and the necessary training to handle such substances safely, this bill addresses a pressing need to protect those on the front lines of combating the opioid epidemic.

The National Sheriffs' Association stands ready to support efforts to enact this bill into law and ensure first responders have the resources they need to remain safe while serving their communities.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Sheriff Kieran Donahue.

Sheriff Kieran Donahue
Canyon County, Idaho
President
National Sheriffs' Association

A blue ink signature of Jonathan Thompson.

Jonathan Thompson
Executive Director, CEO
National Sheriffs' Association