

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 12

BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

1 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRE-  
2 SENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND THE CONGRES-  
3 SIONAL DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE STATE OF IDAHO IN THE CONGRESS OF THE  
4 UNITED STATES.  
5

6 We, your Memorialists, the House of Representatives and the Senate of  
7 the State of Idaho assembled in the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-fifth  
8 Idaho Legislature, do hereby respectfully represent that:

9 WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that  
10 from August 2017 through August 2018 more than 48,000 people in the United  
11 States died from an opioid overdose, with synthetic opioids (excluding  
12 methadone) contributing to a record 31,900 overdose deaths. While drug  
13 overdose deaths from methadone, semisynthetic opioids, and heroin have  
14 decreased in recent months, overdose deaths from synthetic opioids have con-  
15 tinued to increase; and

16 WHEREAS, the People's Republic of China is the world's largest producer  
17 of illicit fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, and their immediate precursors.  
18 From the People's Republic of China, those substances are shipped primarily  
19 through express consignment carriers or international mail directly to the  
20 United States, or, alternatively, shipped directly to transnational crimi-  
21 nal organizations in Mexico, Canada, and the Caribbean; and

22 WHEREAS, in 2015, Mexican heroin accounted for 93% of the total weight  
23 of heroin seized in the United States, transported to the United States by  
24 transnational criminal organizations that maintain territorial influence  
25 over large regions in Mexico and remain the greatest criminal drug threat to  
26 the United States; and

27 WHEREAS, insufficient regulation of synthetic opioid production and  
28 export and insufficient law enforcement efforts to combat opioid traffick-  
29 ing in the People's Republic of China and Mexico continue to contribute to a  
30 flood of opioids into the United States; and

31 WHEREAS, Congress recently passed, and the President of the United  
32 States signed, the Fentanyl Sanctions Act, as part of the National Defense  
33 Authorization Act for fiscal year 2020, Public Law 116-92, with the entire  
34 delegation representing Idaho voting in favor; and

35 WHEREAS, the Fentanyl Sanctions Act enacts bipartisan ideas to impose  
36 direct sanctions on: (1) foreign manufacturers that knowingly provide  
37 synthetic opioids to traffickers and other transnational criminal organi-  
38 zations; and (2) financial institutions that aid the manufacturers. These  
39 traffickers and criminal organizations mix fentanyl with other drugs and  
40 smuggle these dangerous substances into the United States.

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Ses-  
42 sion of the Sixty-fifth Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and  
43 the Senate concurring therein, that the Idaho Legislature expresses grati-

1 tude to the President of the United States and the United States Congress,  
2 especially the delegation representing the State of Idaho, for working to-  
3 gether to enact legislation that imposes sanctions on: (1) foreign manu-  
4 facturers that knowingly provide synthetic opioids to traffickers and other  
5 transnational criminal organizations; and (2) financial institutions that  
6 aid the manufacturers.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the United States is re-  
8 spectfully requested to continue diplomatic efforts with partners and al-  
9 lies to establish multilateral sanctions against foreign opioid traffick-  
10 ers.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the United States is re-  
12 spectfully requested to use any lawful powers he has to publicly identify  
13 foreign suppliers and traffickers of opioids, impose sanctions on them to  
14 cripple their operations, deny their access to markets in the United States,  
15 and freeze their assets and block transactions with financial institutions  
16 in the United States to protect Idahoans and all Americans from this scourge.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Clerk of the House of Representa-  
18 tives be, and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this  
19 Memorial to the President of the United States, the President of the Senate  
20 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Congress, and the con-  
21 gressional delegation representing the State of Idaho in the Congress of the  
22 United States.