

I strongly support this legislation because fentanyl deaths are climbing.

From the negative effects of too much screen time, access to negative social media to death by fentanyl, our youth are in a crisis.

The lack of awareness by parents and students is a huge factor.

Education is necessary to curb this crisis. We need to take immediate action to empower our young people to make informed decisions on their own, when they are away from home, away from parents or adults. When they are at a party or hanging out with friends or when they are in the company of someone who is about to buy or take this deadly pill.

Fentanyl is different from typical substance abuse, with fentanyl you most likely will not have the time to establish a habit forming addiction because as little as 2 mg can kill a person! Just 3 granules the size of salt or sugar granules!! Fentanyl is being mixed into other drugs unbeknownst to the person taking the pill or smoking the marijuana laced with fentanyl. Fentanyl is being sold online, at schools its cheap at only \$8 a pill. A student may think they're buying a pill to help focus for a test or to complete assignments, a pill for energy, to relax or to just plain ol get high.

In an article interviewing Sedgwick County Sheriff Easter. He shared that, nationwide, teen drug overdoses have doubled in the last 10 years but fentanyl overdoses have gone from 38 in 2010 to 883 in 2021!

Students in schools are a standing audience for this vital education. In my 30 years working with youth in my community and workplace, Ive always held true to the notion that second to the home, schools have the greatest potential for impact, as all students will learn the same thing. They can support one another with the tools this type of education will equip them with for all situations. With fentanyl deaths on the rise, its not a matter of if or when one of our youth may have to put into action what can be taught in the school.

A big reason I am here as a legislator before you is because I care about what kind of Kansas my 14 school aged grandchildren will grow up in and I care about the future of our youth and what we can do as part of the village it takes to raise them into successful, productive members of the society

I am a first term legislator. I have recently been made aware of the stakeholders opposition and concerns and I have complete faith that if this committee chooses to work this bill that those concerns will be addressed and I welcome amendments to make this life saving legislation better and get it out to our youth as soon as possible.

Power is preparedness, preparedness is power, lets empower our kids to take charge of their lives by making right informed decisions

Thank you

Representative Martinez