



National District Attorneys Association
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November 21st, 2019

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C., 20002

Dear Chairman Grassley,

I am reaching out on behalf of the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA), the oldest and largest national organization representing state and local prosecutors in the country. With more than 5,500 members nationwide NDAA is recognized as the leading source of national expertise on the prosecution function and is a valuable resource for the media, academia, government, and community leaders.

Today, I write in support of the *Stop the Importation and Manufacturing of Synthetic Analogues Act of 2019 (SISMA)*, which would create regulations for analogues of controlled substances that are imported into the United States. The legislation would establish a new schedule of controlled substances, Schedule A, and would allow the Attorney General to temporarily or permanently schedule a substance under this new schedule. Currently, criminal organizations are circumventing the *Controlled Substances Act* by altering the chemical structure of existing controlled substances thereby avoiding current scheduling orders. This allows dangerous substances, such as synthetic fentanyl, to be imported, marketed, and sold to communities across the United States.

NDAA is confident that your legislative proposal will address this growing problem by ensuring that criminal penalties are in place when dangerous substances, that share substantially similar chemical structures as controlled substances, are manufactured, imported, or exported within the United States. The legislation will ensure that law enforcement can continue to combat the ongoing drug crisis facing the country as foreign adversaries and criminal enterprises flood our streets with dangerous substances.

We appreciate your commitment to make our communities safer and look forward to working alongside your staff to move this bipartisan legislation forward.

Sincerely,

Duffie Stone,
President