



## MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

July 21, 2021

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Pittsburgh  
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Salt Lake City  
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San Diego  
San Francisco  
San Jose  
Seattle  
St. Louis  
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Suffolk Co.  
Tampa  
Tucson  
Tulsa  
Virginia Beach  
Washington DC  
Wichita

The Honorable Chuck Grassley  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Grassley and Senator Feinstein,

I'm writing on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) to register our support for S. 2351, the *Stop the Importation and Manufacturing of Synthetic Analogues (SIMSA) Act*. The MCCA is a professional association of police executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada.

Synthetic opioids, especially fentanyl, are among the many threats facing our communities, and gaps in U.S. law have complicated law enforcement's response to this threat. Creative chemists can tweak a few molecules to create new synthetic analogues, which are technically non-scheduled, and non-controlled substances, despite being just as dangerous as traditional fentanyl. It is clear these new analogues are explicitly designed to exploit existing loopholes in the law.

By creating a new Schedule A for synthetic analogues, *SIMSA* will help address these loopholes, give law enforcement a powerful tool to protect our communities, and help save lives. Importantly, the bill strikes an appropriate balance between upholding public safety without over-criminalizing synthetic analogues or stifling research and other scientific pursuits. Finally, the legislation will help prevent future crises involving synthetic analogues. While synthetic opioids are the largest concern today, the new Schedule A will allow law enforcement to better mitigate emerging threats involving synthetic analogues of other controlled substances.

Thank you for your continued leadership on this issue. Please do not hesitate to contact me if the MCCA can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Chief Art Acevedo  
Chief, Miami Police Department  
President, Major Cities Chiefs Association

Calgary, Alberta  
Edmonton, Alberta  
Montreal, Québec  
Ottawa, Ontario  
Peel Region, Ontario  
Toronto, Ontario  
Vancouver, B.C.  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
York Region, Ontario



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Tucson  
Tulsa  
Virginia Beach  
Washington DC  
Wichita

The Honorable John Katko  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kathleen Rice  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Katko and Representative Rice,

I'm writing on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) to register our support for H.R. 4459, the *Stop the Importation and Manufacturing of Synthetic Analogues (SIMSA) Act*. The MCCA is a professional association of police executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada.

Synthetic opioids, especially fentanyl, are among the many threats facing our communities, and gaps in U.S. law have complicated law enforcement's response to this threat. Creative chemists can tweak a few molecules to create new synthetic analogues, which are technically non-scheduled, and non-controlled substances, despite being just as dangerous as traditional fentanyl. It is clear these new analogues are explicitly designed to exploit existing loopholes in the law.

By creating a new Schedule A for synthetic analogues, *SIMSA* will help address these loopholes, give law enforcement a powerful tool to protect our communities, and help save lives. Importantly, the bill strikes an appropriate balance between upholding public safety without over-criminalizing synthetic analogues or stifling research and other scientific pursuits. Finally, the legislation will help prevent future crises involving synthetic analogues. While synthetic opioids are the largest concern today, the new Schedule A will allow law enforcement to better mitigate emerging threats involving synthetic analogues of other controlled substances.

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