



Andrea Thomas [REDACTED]@voicesforawareness.com>

Senate Judiciary Committee

kme [REDACTED]@aol.com>
To: [REDACTED]@voicesforawareness.com

Fri, Jan 31, 2025 at 12:33 PM

Respectfully,

I am writing this letter as I continue to grieve the devastating loss of my only child, John Michael Middlebrooks, to fentanyl poisoning. He was 34 years old and loved his job as a merchant mariner, serving as an able-bodied seaman unlimited. No words can fully express the pain and emptiness I feel every day. My son was a kind, loving, and bright soul with so much life ahead of him, but that future was tragically cut short by the deadly presence of fentanyl. His death has changed me forever; he was my source of joy.

Fentanyl is not just another drug; it is a lethal poison that is taking countless innocent lives. My son did not choose to die. He was deceived and misled into consuming something he never intended to, unaware that a single mistake could have devastating consequences. His passing is not just a personal tragedy but a part of a larger crisis that is destroying families and communities.

I am not just a grieving mother; I am also an advocate for justice and awareness. Those who manufacture, distribute, and enable the spread of fentanyl must be held accountable for their actions. Too many lives have been lost, and too many families have been shattered. I urge this court to take a strong stance against those responsible, ensuring that the law recognizes the true gravity of their actions.

While nothing can bring my son back, I am determined to use my voice to prevent other families from suffering the same unbearable loss. I implore you to consider the lasting impact of fentanyl poisoning and to deliver justice in a way that honors the lives taken far too soon.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Karen Eastwood