Dearest Representatives, Chairman Grassley, Ranking Member Durbin,

Thank you for your service, and thank you to those of you who passed the Halt Fentanyl Act in the House.

My name is Amanda Faith. In August 2020, I lost my 13-year-old son, Luca, to fentanyl poisoning.

Luca was a lighthearted, gifted child, a humanitarian who, at only five, organized a toy drive for homeless kids, believing "one good day" could change a life. He was intelligent, adventurous, and destined for greatness. But a counterfeit Percocet obtained through Snapchat stole his future.

Since then, my life's mission has been to honor Luca's heart by sharing his story to prevent further loss. I became a fentanyl poisoning awareness advocate, working with organizations across the U.S., collaborating on programs to support America's recovery from this crisis. I've traveled to 48 states meeting with grieving families, spoken at countless events, and engaged with media and legislators. I was recently appointed, along with three others, by our board of supervisors to write a collaborative youth prevention proposal for Shasta County.

Parents are a powerful force in this fight because our dedication is born from the most unbearable and unimaginable loss.

Please internalize that gut-wrenching feeling; that's empathy.

We are making a difference, but we need your support.

Initially, parents were told at DEA summits to keep doing what we were doing: reach out to legislators and sue the social media companies responsible, pushing for changes to Section 230(c). So, I began brainstorming ways to hold fentanyl dealers accountable, supported Proposition 36 in California, joined a lawsuit against Snapchat, and began supporting legislation for social media reform (KOSPA). At the China Select Committee hearing last April, we were told once again to keep doing what we were doing and sue China, after being told the PRC was responsible for 97% of fentanyl-related substances distributed worldwide, with evidence of subsidies and tax breaks for companies exporting these substances. I began researching loopholes to hold the Chinese government responsible for the export of fentanyl-related substances.

That's when I researched the HALT Fentanyl Act!

People have said it will only increase incarceration rates. While this may be true, I believe it is a short-term problem within a long-term solution. There will be fewer arrests if we can eradicate the flow of fentanyl precursors from China.

Luca's murderer (who admitted to knowing fentanyl was lethal in his interview) would have received more prison time had he bought him alcohol in a convenience store. Families across America deserve justice, and our system is flawed.

The Chinese embassy states on its website that it can't control exports from Chineseowned pharmaceutical companies because of American law and urges us to permanently schedule fentanyl-related substances as Schedule I, citing that they don't have a problem with fentanyl-related substances in their country because of their own scheduling. This is on their own embassy website!

The permanent scheduling of fentanyl to Schedule I will enable us to hold the PRC responsible for its role in this crisis.

HALT could be used to effectively cut off the flow of these dangerous precursor chemicals at the source.

But, and this is critical, this legislation must remain free of amendments that could undermine its efficacy. Adding amendments prolongs the legislative process, delaying justice and potentially weakening the bill's impact. I urge you to pass the HALT Fentanyl Act quickly and please keep HALT clean!

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