

HB 464

I live in Anne Arundel County, hold a BS, MA in counseling and am a combat veteran. I support HB 464.

Fentanyl is the number one cause of death in for Americans age 18 to 45, according to Families Against Fentanyl. This is a crisis.

Marylanders can make a difference at the state level to stop this crisis.

“The internal U.S. distribution networks for fentanyl are the most essential component of the foreign cartels’ operations because, without them, there are no sales and no profits.” [Opinion | Time to Unleash an Extraordinary Weapon Against Fentanyl - POLITICO](#)

Recent research.

- Black Americans are more likely to die from fentanyl poisoning than any other racial demographic; although the total number of fentanyl deaths is highest among White people. The per capita rate of fentanyl deaths per 100,000 Black people reached 26.6 last year, compared to the 19.2 fentanyl deaths out of 100,000 White people.
- Fentanyl fatalities more than doubled in just two years, and more than tripled among Indigenous and Multiracial Americans. Since 2015, fentanyl deaths among Black and Indigenous communities increased 13x.
- Teen fentanyl deaths more than tripled since 2019, and increased more than five-fold among Black teens. Fentanyl is the number one cause of death among Multiracial and White Americans ages 18 to 45, and is the number two cause of death among Black and Indigenous Americans ages 18 to 45, surpassed only by homicide and liver disease respectively.

“In terms of loss of life and damage to the economy, illicit synthetic opioids have the effect of a slow-motion weapon of mass destruction in pill form.”

— Commission on Combating Synthetic Opioid Trafficking, "Final Report"

[Our Research — Families Against Fentanyl](#)