

Senate Bill 1075/ House Bill 1245

Bill Title Criminal Law – Distribution of Heroin or Fentanyl Causing Serious Bodily Injury or Death (Victoria and Scottie’s Law)

Committee Judicial Proceedings

Date March 5th 2024

Position In Favor

Hello,

My name is Debbie Santini and I am in favor of this Senate Bill 1075/House Bill 1245. I am the mother of 2 sons. My youngest son Jesse Byrd died in Stella ‘Recovery’ House on Marda Lane in Annapolis on February 16th 2022. Jesse died of Fentanyl poisoning 5 days after entering Stella House. There were 10 people in that house at the time of my son’s death and no one saved his life. My life and that of Jesse’s brother and father are forever changed because of illicit fentanyl.

This bill will help put drug dealers away for a period of time that will save lives. We have to start sending a message to drug dealers that says we are tired of children dying to illicit fentanyl. This continues to be an attack on American citizens that is destroying families not only in our state but across our country. It is leaving families devastated. I may never know the drug dealer that killed my son but I do know that if stricter laws and harsher penalties are put into place it WILL save the lives of others.

It won’t bring back my child but it may just save one of yours.

Thank you,
Debbie Santini
Devasted mom

