

**Testimony From Michele Kreider  
in Support of SB0604 / HB1398  
Distribution of Heroin and/or Fentanyl Causing Serious Bodily Injury of Death,  
(Victoria, Scottie, Ashleigh and Yader's Law)**

As in 2024, I am again in support of the above-named bills for 2025. My son is one of thousands who succumbed to Fentanyl poisoning. Blair Ross Kreider was found dead at the age of 33 on 11/18/2020. He had been battling addiction through a methadone program and relapsed during the height of COVID isolation. This relapse sealed his fate. A 2nd chance at life is not possible. The stigma of being shamed by his addiction did not help his situation. The methadone program was not a permanent answer but a steppingstone to slowly adjust his body from addiction so that withdrawal wouldn't be as severe. His death was made possible by a person(s) providing him a drug mixed with fentanyl. He can no longer be treated. **A DEAD PERSON CANNOT BE TREATED.**

Listed is what was found in Blair's toxicology report:

- methadone, morphine, xylazine, despropionyl fentanyl, 4-fluoroisobutryl fentanyl

His path to opioids began after a dirt bike accident injured his back. He eventually healed, but once his back was broken, it left him with pain to be dealt with for the rest of his life.

The police have not contacted me re an investigation, nor have they returned his 3 cell phones that were taken as evidence at the time of his death. I'm wondering if there was an investigation. The unknown person(s) who provided Blair with the deadly cocktail is probably providing it to others who end up dead. These are criminals who are a danger to society and they should be taken off the streets and put in jail for contributing to the deaths of vulnerable recovering addicts—easy prey. Instead, if/when illicit drug dealers are apprehended, the fate of their lives are dealt with the utmost of protection by the justice system—a slap on the wrist. My son's police report stated, "deceased took drugs" while his death certificate stated "accidental overdose." He was shrugged off as just another drug addict. Why isn't the seller of illegal/illicit drugs considered as "aiding in the death of an individual?"

Link to fentanyl statistics: <https://drugabusestatistics.org/fentanyl-abuse-statistics/>

Prior to 2020, most Americans, including myself, were unaware of illicit fentanyl. By 2020, illicit drug deaths rose substantially. By 2023, drug deaths peaked in the thousands, with fentanyl responsible for most of these deaths making this the worse drug crisis in recent U.S. history.

It's too early in the year to obtain accurate illicit fentanyl drug deaths that took place in 2024. I've read the numbers are down, but this crisis is far from over. Those who hand out these drugs like candy must be held accountable and taken off the streets.

Thank you for your consideration.