

# TOM UMBERG

SENATOR, 34<sup>TH</sup> SENATE DISTRICT

SCR 100 - National Fentanyl Awareness Day

Updated (April 19, 2022)

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## SUMMARY

National Fentanyl Awareness Day is being recognized annually on May 10<sup>th</sup> as an important way to acknowledge the threats of fentanyl and create a call to action among our communities.

Spreading knowledge and information is crucial in responding to these growing threats.

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## BACKGROUND

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid administered to reduce severe pain. It is 50% more concentrated than morphine, therefore when abused can cause brain and other health effects, including death.

The United States in the midst of a Fentanyl overdose epidemic. Over 100,000 Americans died as a result of this drug in 2021 driven by traffickers mass-producing fake or counterfeit pills.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), fentanyl is involved in more deaths of Americans under 50 than any other cause of death, including heart disease, cancer, and all other accidents.

Four out of every ten pills with fentanyl tested by the federal Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) contain a potentially lethal dose and counterfeit pills have also been found to contain fentanyl-related substances and methamphetamine;

National Fentanyl Awareness Day will increase the federal recognition of the impact of fake and counterfeit fentanyl pills has on families and young people in efforts of preventing additional deaths.

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## PROBLEM

Illegally made fentanyl and its dangers, while well-documented by health professionals and law enforcement, are largely unknown to the general population and even more so to its most vulnerable population: youth and young adults.

Among teenagers, overdose deaths linked to synthetic opioids like fentanyl tripled in the past two years, yet 73% have never heard of fake prescription pills being made with fentanyl.

The DEA has observed a dramatic rise in the number of counterfeit pills containing at least 2 mg of fentanyl, which is considered a deadly dose.

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## THE SOLUTION

SCR 100 Designates May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022 as National Fentanyl Awareness Day to support increasing individual and public awareness of the impact of fake or counterfeit fentanyl pills on families and young people.

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## SUPPORT

A Song for Charlie  
[FentanylAwarenessDay.org](http://FentanylAwarenessDay.org)

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## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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