

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 19, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

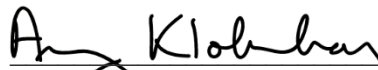
Dear Mr. President:

I write to request that any supplemental funding request your administration submits to Congress include additional federal funds for inspection technology to better detect and intercept fentanyl at our nation's borders and to bolster federal law enforcement's ability to investigate fentanyl trafficking.

Overdose deaths in the United States, particularly due to fentanyl poisoning, pose a threat to our communities. More than 106,000 people lost their lives to drug overdoses in the United States in 2021, with over 70,000 of those deaths involving synthetic opioids – primarily fentanyl. In Minnesota, there were more than 900 opioid-related overdose deaths in 2021 – a four-fold increase from 2018. This was a record number, and averages more than two lives lost every day. Over 90 percent of those opioid-related overdose deaths in Minnesota were related to synthetic opioids like fentanyl. Over the past year, your administration has seized nearly 45,000 pounds of fentanyl which is the equivalent of 279 million potentially fatal doses. Advanced border technology will make a major difference to assist law enforcement in preventing deadly fentanyl from entering our country.

I am committed to ensuring that the United States addresses the fentanyl epidemic and look forward to working with you to address this crisis.

Sincerely,



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator