



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1625</b>		DATE: <b>1/13/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Crime and Public Safety</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE C. DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 11:58 PM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

**I am in Support of this Bill and increasing the Penalties' and severity of crimes committed.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>BYRON KEELIN</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-402-0655</b>
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>FREEDOM PRINCIPLE MO</b>		TITLE: <b>PRESIDENT</b>
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CITY: <b>BALLWIN</b>	STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63022</b>
EMAIL: <b>freedomprinciplemo@protonmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 6:16 AM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

I am writing in strong support of House Bill 1625, which seeks to update Missouri's laws relating to drug trafficking offenses, particularly regarding dangerous synthetic opioids such as fentanyl and carfentanil.

The proposed amendments reduce threshold amounts for these substances, ensuring that individuals distributing even small, highly lethal quantities are held appropriately accountable. With the opioid epidemic continuing to claim lives across our state, these changes are crucial to enhance public safety and deter high-risk trafficking activity.

Law enforcement and prosecutors need effective, modernized tools to address the reality that synthetic opioids are many times more potent than heroin or morphine, and a tiny amount can be fatal. By distinguishing carfentanil and lowering prosecution thresholds, HB 1625 makes Missouri law responsive to current threats in the illicit drug market.

Ultimately, these reforms will save lives, support safer communities, and send a clear message that Missouri will not tolerate the trafficking of deadly substances. I urge lawmakers to advance and enact HB 1625 as a pivotal step in the fight against opioid-related harm.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>DAYNA D. BLANAR</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 5:30 PM</b>	
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Chairman and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of House Bill 1625, which modifies the offenses of trafficking of drugs in the first and second degree.

My name is Dayna Blanar. I reside in Pulaski County, Waynesville, Missouri. I am a wife, mother, and grandmother who is raising grandchildren. I am also the founder of Missouri/Kansas Families Affected by Fentanyl Poisoning. Professionally, I am a federal civilian employee with the Defense Health Agency at Fort Leonard Wood. My husband is a retired Military Police officer and a current federal civilian employee at the Military Police School. I come from a family with deep ties to law enforcement, and I understand firsthand the pressures, limitations, and responsibilities faced by those tasked with protecting our communities.

My support for HB 1625 is both professional and deeply personal.

On May 31, 2022, my son Zachary died from fentanyl poisoning in Pulaski County, Missouri. Zachary did not seek fentanyl. He was exposed to it unknowingly through marijuana that had been adulterated. Like so many victims across our state, he had no idea what he was ingesting and that deception cost him his life.

Zachary was not a career criminal. He had struggled with marijuana and alcohol earlier in life, but after serving jail time in 2020, he was released on a Suspended Imposition of Sentence, regained his faith, found stable employment, obtained his own apartment, and was rebuilding his relationship with his family and his daughter. He was doing exactly what our justice system is meant to encourage accountability, rehabilitation, and lawful living.

Yet none of that protected him from a trafficking system that floods communities with lethal substances and disguises them as something else.

The aftermath of his death revealed a truth that many families eventually learn, current drug laws often fail to reflect the lethality, deception, and scale of modern trafficking. When fentanyl is introduced into the drug supply, it is no longer a matter of personal choice or "accidental overdose." It is a foreseeable, often inevitable, outcome of trafficking behavior.

Fentanyl is not simply another illicit drug, it is a synthetic chemical with extraordinary lethality, measured in micrograms. When introduced into the drug supply, death is not an anomaly it is a foreseeable outcome. If a chemical agent with this level of toxicity were released in any other context, the resulting deaths would never be labeled accidental. Yet when fentanyl is trafficked and distributed for profit, the loss of life is too often minimized as an "overdose" rather than recognized as the predictable result of deliberate distribution.

HB 1625 is necessary because it acknowledges this reality.

By modernizing trafficking thresholds and strengthening first and second degree trafficking statutes,

**this bill appropriately distinguishes between individuals struggling with addiction and those who profit from the large scale distribution of substances that routinely kill. It provides prosecutors with clearer tools to address high level trafficking while preserving discretion for treatment focused outcomes where appropriate.**

**From a public safety standpoint, strong trafficking statutes are essential for deterrence. Without meaningful consequences, traffickers operate with the understanding that deaths are simply collateral damage rather than criminal responsibility. That reality endangers not only users, but families, children, first responders, and entire communities.**

**Fentanyl has transformed drug trafficking into a mass harm threat. Its potency, concealability, and frequent use as an adulterant make it uniquely dangerous. Those who traffic such substances understand or reasonably should understand that death is a foreseeable consequence of their actions. Missouri's statutes must reflect that transformation.**

**HB 1625 sends a clear message: those who traffic large quantities of controlled substances—especially substances known to cause widespread death will be held accountable for the harm they cause.**

**On behalf of my son, my family, and the many Missouri families who no longer have a voice, I respectfully urge the committee to support HB 1625 and move it forward.**

**Thank you for your time, your service, and your commitment to protecting Missouri communities.**

**Respectfully submitted,  
Dayna D. Blonar**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JAMES WILLFRED</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 3:26 PM</b>	

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My name is James Willfred, and my son Austin, died on June 20th 2023. He died of fentanyl poisoning. I firmly believed that if there were a harsher penalty's against dealing ellicit substances my son might be alive today. Whether or not that is the case, it is very well-known these illicit drugs are killing people left and right we need to do something to deter these criminals from doing what they're doing. I know that fighting this epidemic, plaguing our country is not gonna be won just by a harsher penalties, and there's many other things to do. Harsher penalties is one of the things that needs to be done. I also run an organization that's called A Second Chance at Life, It's whole purpose is to help eradicate the drug supply and help those that suffer from substance use disorder, whether that be the family of a current substance user or the user themselves.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>LAURA WOODY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>1/13/2026 2:50 PM</b>
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**My son was poisoned with illicit fentanyl in 2021. Drug dealers are not being held accountable. State and local governments need to become as aggressive in stopping supply and suppliers of deadly drugs as our federal government has become.**

**The illicit fentanyl crisis is a public health crisis that has cost a half million Americans their lives. Several thousand of those deaths have been Missourians. This must become part of the Safer Missouri initiative.**