

December 14, 2021

The Honorable Bill Cassidy United States Senate 520 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Bob Latta United States House of Representatives 2448 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Richard Burr United States Senate 217 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Morgan Griffith United States House of Representatives 2202 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: S. 3336 / H.R. 6184 the Halt Lethal Trafficking (HALT) Fentanyl Act - Active Support

Dear Senator Cassidy, Senator Burr, Representative Latta, and Representative Griffith,

I write to you today on behalf of the Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC), representing 75,000 public safety members and 930 public safety associations. PORAC is very pleased to support the recently introduced *Halt Lethal Trafficking (HALT) Fentanyl Act*, which would permanently classify fentanyl and its analogs as a Schedule I substance under the Controlled Substances Act (CSA).

This important legislation would enable law enforcement to prosecute the distribution of fentanyl and fentanyl analogs, which continue to devastate communities nationwide. This is particularly important in California, where we have seen opioid-related overdoses rise significantly in recent years. In 2020 alone, Fentanyl accounted for 36 percent of overdose deaths in our State, an increase of 89 percent from 2019. As the law enforcement community continues working to reverse these trends, the HALT Fentanyl Act would help to bolster these efforts by ensuring the current Schedule 1 classification of fentanyl under the CSA does not expire.

PORAC sincerely appreciates your work in developing and introducing this legislation. Making this classification permanent will enhance the vital role our law enforcement officers play in removing these deadly and harmful substances from our streets. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the PORAC Headquarters (916) 928-3777 or contact our legislative advocates at Steptoe & Johnson LLP (202) 429-6457.

Very Truly Yours, BOARD OF DIRECTORS Peace Officers Research Association of California

Brian R. Marvel President

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