## THE MINNESOTA

## C O U N T Y A T T O R N E Y S

## ASSOCIATION

February 28, 2025

Senator Mark W. Koran 95 University Avenue W. Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 2203 St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: SF 319

Dear Senator Koran:

Our Association supports SF 319 which creates a new crime of adulterating substances with fentanyl.

Our communities in Minnesota are facing a dangerous and damaging upsurge of substance abuse that threatens the public safety of thousands of Minnesotans. In recent years, the introduction of fentanyl into our communities (and not just rural communities) has proven that drug to be even more dangerous and destructive than methamphetamine. Fentanyl is often added to other drugs because of its extreme potency, which makes drugs cheaper, more powerful, more addictive, and more dangerous.

There are many examples of this in Minnesota. A person was convicted in Dakota County for providing deadly fentanyl-laced pills to a 16 year old teenager in January 2021. There was a recent situation from the St. Cloud are where one person died and eight others overdosed from fentanyl that was mixed with other narcotics. In Olmsted County an 18-year-old and a 22-year-old, died from drug overdoses after ingesting a deadly fentanyl opioid disguised as oxycodone pills.

Thank you for your leadership in authoring this bill.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Small Executive Director