

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7730

To require a GAO study on the sale of illicit drugs online, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 19, 2024

Ms. SPANBERGER (for herself, Mr. HUNT, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, and Mr. CRENSHAW) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To require a GAO study on the sale of illicit drugs online,
and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Targeting Online Sales
5 of Fentanyl Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GAO STUDY ON THE SALE OF ILLICIT DRUGS ON-**
2 **LINE.**

3 (a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United
4 States shall conduct a study on the online sale of fentanyl
5 and methamphetamine, including—

6 (1) business models employed by online sellers
7 of fentanyl and methamphetamine, including an ex-
8 amination of supply chains, logistics, and strategies
9 utilized for customer acquisition, retention, and com-
10 munication within illicit online marketplaces;

11 (2) utilization of online illicit drug markets and
12 providers (as defined in section 2258E of title 18,
13 United States Code) for facilitating financial trans-
14 actions in the online sale of fentanyl and meth-
15 amphetamine, with a particular focus on their im-
16 pact on individuals who are 18 years of age and
17 younger;

18 (3) efforts of the Federal Government to com-
19 bat the online sale of fentanyl and methamphet-
20 amine, including—

21 (A) interagency collaboration, including
22 personnel detailed to other agencies to support
23 efforts to combat the online trafficking of
24 fentanyl and methamphetamine, and related il-
25 licit finance;

1 (B) intergovernmental collaboration be-
2 tween the Federal Government and State, Trib-
3 al, local, and foreign governments;

4 (C) intersectoral collaboration with the pri-
5 vate sector, including businesses and non-gov-
6 ernmental organizations;

7 (D) examination of existing procedures fol-
8 lowed by Federal law enforcement agencies in
9 handling cases related to online sales of
10 fentanyl and methamphetamine, encompassing
11 the receipt, investigation, and prosecution pro-
12 cesses;

13 (E) analysis of aggregated outcomes from
14 the past 10 years to identify patterns and areas
15 for improvement; and

16 (F) identification of gaps or resource defi-
17 ciencies in coordinating and collaborating activi-
18 ties described in subparagraphs (A) through
19 (E) to combat the online sale of fentanyl and
20 methamphetamine;

21 (4) models utilized by providers, including ma-
22 chine learning, algorithmic technology, and data
23 analysis techniques, to effectively detect and combat
24 the sale of fentanyl and methamphetamine on their
25 platforms;

1 (5) enforcement mechanisms and processes em-
2 ployed by providers to penalize users involved in the
3 sale of fentanyl and methamphetamine, including
4 user identification, verification procedures, and sub-
5 sequent actions, such as account suspension, report-
6 ing to law enforcement agencies, and collaboration
7 with legal proceedings; and

8 (6) analysis of referrals to the Federal Govern-
9 ment by providers detailing information about online
10 sales of fentanyl and methamphetamine, including—

11 (A) the number of referrals from providers
12 to the Federal Government;

13 (B) the number of referrals that were in-
14 vestigated by the Federal Government, includ-
15 ing the agencies involved in the investigation
16 and the outcome of the investigation;

17 (C) the number of referrals that resulted
18 in an arrest, prosecution, or conviction, includ-
19 ing the offense of the arrest, prosecution, or
20 conviction; and

21 (D) the number of referrals that were
22 shared by the Federal Government with a
23 State, Tribal, or local government, including a
24 law enforcement agency or prosecutor's office.

1 (b) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after
2 the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
3 of the United States shall submit to Congress a report
4 containing all findings and determinations made in car-
5 rying out the study required under subsection (a).

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