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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To establish a National Center to Stop the Import of Illicit Synthetic Drugs.

\_\_\_\_\_  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. PETTERSEN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To establish a National Center to Stop the Import of Illicit  
Synthetic Drugs.

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 “Stop the Import of  
5 Fentanyl Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. NATIONAL CENTER TO STOP THE IMPORT OF ILLICIT**  
7 **SYNTHETIC DRUGS.**

8 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is within the Drug En-  
9 forcement Administration a National Center to Stop the

1 Import of Illicit Synthetic Drugs (hereinafter referred to  
2 as the “National Center”).

3 (b) DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL CENTER TO STOP THE  
4 IMPORT OF ILLICIT SYNTHETIC DRUGS.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is a Director of the  
6 National Center, who shall be the head of the Na-  
7 tional Center, and who shall be appointed by the  
8 President, by and with the advice and consent of the  
9 Senate.

10 (2) NO SIMULTANEOUS APPOINTMENT.—The  
11 Director of the National Center may not simulta-  
12 neously serve in any other capacity in the executive  
13 branch.

14 (c) REPORT AND BRIEFING REQUIRED.—

15 (1) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 90  
16 days after date of enactment of this Act, and annu-  
17 ally thereafter, the Director of the National Center  
18 shall submit to the Administrator of the Drug En-  
19 forcement Administration a report including—

20 (A) an overview of how synthetic drugs  
21 come into the United States;

22 (B) a strategic plan of action on each of  
23 its primary missions under subsection (d); and

1 (C) identification of necessary resources  
2 from agencies and Congress to accomplish the  
3 primary missions under subsection (d).

4 (2) BRIEF REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days  
5 after date of enactment of this Act, and annually  
6 thereafter, the Director of the National Center shall  
7 provide a brief to Congress on the report required  
8 under paragraph (1).

9 (d) PRIMARY MISSIONS.—The primary missions of  
10 the National Center shall be as follows:

11 (1) To serve as the primary organization in the  
12 United States Government for analyzing, tracking,  
13 and halting the movement of synthetic drugs domes-  
14 tically, particularly as it relates to the trafficking of  
15 fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, and precursor chemi-  
16 cals to produce fentanyl.

17 (2) To serve as the primary organization in the  
18 United States Government for tracking the move-  
19 ments of persons trafficking in the synthetic drug  
20 trade in the United States and overseas through in-  
21 telligence gathering, in cooperation with other agen-  
22 cies, including:

23 (A) The Drug Enforcement Administra-  
24 tion.

25 (B) The Department of Justice.

1 (C) The Department of State.

2 (D) The Federal Bureau of Investigations.

3 (E) The Internal Revenue Service.

4 (F) The Department of Treasury.

5 (G) The National Security Agency.

6 (H) The Central Intelligence Agency.

7 (I) The United States Postal Service.

8 (J) The Department of Homeland Security.  
9

10 (K) The United States Customs and Border Patrol.  
11

12 (L) The Office of National Drug Control Policy  
13

14 (M) The Office of the Director of National Intelligence.  
15

16 (3) To collect and share information with the  
17 agencies identified under paragraph (2) to identify  
18 and disrupt the movement of fentanyl from an original  
19 source to a consumer.

20 (4) To develop a strategic plan to lead agencies,  
21 as appropriate, in the execution of efforts to break  
22 up the synthetic drug trade, including assigning  
23 roles and responsibilities to such agencies.

24 (5) To ensure that agencies, as appropriate,  
25 have access to and receive information from other

1 agencies, needed to execute their efforts to break up  
2 the synthetic drug trade or perform independent, al-  
3 ternative analysis of the synthetic drug trade.

4 (6) To ensure that agencies have access to and  
5 receive intelligence needed to accomplish any activi-  
6 ties assigned to such agency pursuant to this sub-  
7 section.

8 (7) To serve as the central and shared knowl-  
9 edge bank on known and suspected drug trafficking  
10 organizations, both foreign and domestic, including  
11 such organization's strategies, capabilities, and net-  
12 works of contacts and support.

13 (8) To trace the sale proceeds of the synthetic  
14 drug trade, to identify the interests of drug traf-  
15 ficking organizations and persons trafficking in the  
16 synthetic drug trade and reveal any network that fa-  
17 cilitates such trade.

18 (e) DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTOR.—

19 The Director shall:

20 (1) Serve in the President's cabinet as the prin-  
21 cipal advisor to the President on the synthetic drug  
22 trade.

23 (2) Provide strategic operational plans for ef-  
24 forts of the United States Government to effectively

1 break up the synthetic drug trade, both foreign and  
2 domestic.

3 (3) Advise the Secretary of State on intelligence  
4 gathered related to the synthetic drug trade in for-  
5 eign countries.

6 (4) Support relevant agencies in their efforts to  
7 break up the synthetic drug trade.

8 (5) Testify before the appropriate Congressional  
9 committees annually.

10 (f) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act  
11 shall be construed to limit the action of any person acting  
12 in compliance with State law relating to the manufacture,  
13 production, possession, distribution, dispensation, admin-  
14 istration, or delivery of cannabis.

15 (g) SUNSET.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—The National Center shall  
17 terminate on the date that is five years after the  
18 date of the enactment of this Act.

19 (2) ADDITIONAL TIME PERIOD.—The President  
20 may authorize the National Center to operate for an  
21 additional two years after the date of termination  
22 under paragraph (1).

23 (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1           (1) AGENCY.—The term “agency” shall have  
2           the meaning given such term in section 551 of title  
3           5, United States Code.

4           (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-  
5           TEES.—The term “appropriate Congressional com-  
6           mittees” means the —

7                   (A) Financial Services Committee of the  
8                   House of Representatives;

9                   (B) Committee on Energy and Commerce  
10                  of the House of Representatives;

11                  (C) Committee on Foreign Affairs of the  
12                  House of Representatives; and

13                  (D) Committee on Homeland Security of  
14                  the House of Representatives.

15           (3) DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION.— The  
16           term “drug trafficking organization” means a com-  
17           plex organization with highly defined command-and-  
18           control structures that produce, transport, or dis-  
19           tribute large quantities of one or more synthetic  
20           drugs.

21           (4) PERSONS TRAFFICKING IN THE SYNTHETIC  
22           DRUG TRADE.—The term “persons trafficking in the  
23           synthetic drug trade” means a person that plays a  
24           role in the synthetic drug trade.

1           (5) SYNTHETIC DRUG TRADE.—The term “syn-  
2           thetic drug trade” means any illicit activity to cul-  
3           tivate, produce, manufacture, distribute, sell, fi-  
4           nance, or transport synthetic drugs, or otherwise en-  
5           deavor or attempt to do so, or to assist, abet, con-  
6           spire, or collude with others to do so.