

Chairman Manning, Vice Chair Rezabek, Ranking Minority Member Celebrezze and Distinguished members of the House Criminal Justice Committee...

My name is Brenda Ryan. I am from Cuyahoga Falls/Summit County. Thank you for taking the time to listen to listen to my testimony on Senate Bill One, this morning.

My daughter, Sheen Moore, lost her life on June 9th, 2016 due to a fentanyl overdose. Sheen struggled with addiction for many years, but found sobriety for 7 years before her relapse and death. She left behind a beautiful, 7 year old son and many family members that loved her.

Her dealer was arrested the night of her overdose and charged with 'enticing another with drugs'. When Sheena's toxicology report came back, her dealer was then charged with involuntary manslaughter. Because he only had fentanyl, his bail was low enough that he was able to make his 10% and was out on the streets within 2 weeks. Recently, her dealer was re-arrested for heroin possession, aggravated trafficking in drugs and weapons charges. Thankfully, he was took a plea-deal for eight years in jail, but unfortunately, only because of the manslaughter charge.

The devastation that my family has endured, since my daughter's death, has been mentally and physically crippling. I feel that Sheena would want me to continue the fight that she fought during her 7 years of sobriety; helping people understand addiction and the grip it has on addicts.

My family and I started a foundation called 'Keys to Serenity'. This foundation is to help families that have lost a loved one to an overdose.

- Helping them with resources such as counseling,
 - understanding the court process and
 - to help with the juvenile court process in obtaining guardianship of children left behind
- Hopefully, later, to provide financial help for their loved one's final wishes.

A new report by the US-China Economic Security Review Commission, found that Ohio is the biggest market for fentanyl, in the nation! Dealers are charged with first-degree felonies, only if caught selling the medical-grade form. Black market forms of fentanyl only hold a third-degree felony.

I urge this Judiciary Committee to consider enhancing sentencing guidelines on these lethal, synthetic drugs coming in from other countries. As the last words on my daughter's obituary reads, Sheena would not want us to cry...

She would want us to fight!!