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**Sponsor Testimony on House Concurrent Resolution 11  
Before the House Criminal Justice Committee  
April 23, 2024**

Chairwoman Abrams, Vice Chair Williams, Ranking Member Brown, and members of the House Criminal Justice Committee, thank you for allowing me to present sponsor testimony on HCR 11, a Resolution to Condemn The Peoples Republic of China for its role in the global drug trade.

Since January 2021, more than 200,000 Americans have died from fentanyl.<sup>1</sup> According to the Ohio Department of Health, fentanyl is the cause of 80% of unintentional overdoses in Ohio<sup>2</sup> and kills on average 200 Americans daily.<sup>3</sup>

This week, the U.S. House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party released a new report following a months-long investigation. The report said, “The CCP directly subsidizes the manufacturing and export of illicit fentanyl materials and other synthetic narcotics through tax rebates” and provides “monetary grants and awards to companies openly trafficking illicit fentanyl materials.”<sup>4</sup> China is sponsoring the fentanyl crisis in the U.S. and is the major source of our illicit drugs. It’s estimated that 97 percent of illegal fentanyl entering the U.S. comes from the People’s Republic of China.<sup>5</sup>

The fentanyl crisis has inflicted great harm on communities all across Ohio, leading to a staggering number of overdoses, deaths, and immeasurable suffering for families. “While the human tragedy is by far the most pressing concern, the fentanyl crisis also has economic implications; a congressional report found that it cost the United States nearly \$1.5 trillion in 2020 (7% of GDP).”<sup>6</sup> Despite repeated international calls for action, China’s response has been inadequate, and fails to effectively flatten the production and distribution of these deadly substances.

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<sup>1</sup> [China fueling US fentanyl crisis by subsidizing key chemicals, enriching companies tied to drug trafficking: scathing House report \(nypost.com\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> <https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/project-dawn/fentanyl-test-strips>

<sup>3</sup> [The CCP's Role in the Fentanyl Crisis 4.16.24 \(1\).pdf \(house.gov\)](#)

<sup>4</sup> [House panel says China subsidizes fentanyl production to fuel crisis in the United States | AP News](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Congressional investigation blames China for fueling fentanyl crisis in U.S. \(msn.com\)](#)

<sup>6</sup> [The CCP's Role in the Fentanyl Crisis 4.16.24 \(1\).pdf \(house.gov\)](#)

As members of the State Legislature, it is essential for us to fully understand the point of origin in the global drug crisis and to condemn The People's Republic of China for their role in creating the global drug crisis which has led to millions suffering from addiction, the destruction of countless families and communities.

Thank you for allowing me to share my testimony. Following the strong bi-partisan support this resolution has received in the Senate, I respectfully ask for the committee's support and passage. Thank you, Chair Abrams. At this time we would be happy to answer any questions.