



Representatives Roy Klopfenstein

82<sup>nd</sup> House District

Chairman Johnson, Vice Chair Wilson, and Ranking Member Craig, and members of the Senate Veterans and Public Safety Committee, we appreciate the opportunity to offer sponsor testimony on H.C.R. 11.

This resolution condemns China for its role in the global drug trade as the largest point of origin of fentanyl smuggled to the United States. Everyone in this room has seen firsthand the devastating effects drug addiction has had on our communities, in 2022 alone 14 Ohioans died per day from the crisis. A number that has unfortunately and dramatically increased every year.

The Chinese government has permitted and incentive the production of fentanyl by providing these companies significant tax breaks through programs such as the New and High Technology Enterprise designation, which implements a 15% tax instead of the standard 25% tax. These companies then export the drugs to Mexico where over 90 percent is brought across the southern border.

While we doubt that this resolution will result in Xi Jinping or organizations like the Los Zheng cartel losing an ounce of sleep, it is crucial to shed light on the daily dangers faced by Ohioans. I also think it is important to note that if anyone else was killing 14 Ohioans per day we would prosecute them to the fullest extent of the law.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for being such a passionate leader on this issue. This is a companion bill to your Senate Resolution 240 which passed the Senate last December with overwhelming bipartisan support. Thank you all for your time and I will pass things over to my joint sponsor Representative King.