

Thank you, Chair Senator Latz and Committee-

I would love to be there in person today, however a lot has changed since our last hearing on March 5, 2024. On March 11, 2024, it was a beautiful spring morning in northern MN. Temps were in the 60's. Many families were outside enjoying the beautiful weather. Our daughter Vivian purchased cans of compressed air at the local Walmart after her work shift. She drove back to her apartment and proceeded to start huffing in the front seat of her car. The car was either not in park or during her hallucinations she bumped it into gear. Her vehicle ran over a bike rack and stopped in a small snowbank. Thankfully no innocent people were hurt. Vivian was arrested on a DUI charge. She has currently spent 11 days in jail. Through tough love from family & friends she was unable to meet her bail. 4 days ago, she agreed to treatment. We contacted Hazelton Betty Ford, Plymouth MN, one of the best. We are currently waiting on the insurance preauthorization. Our hope is we can bring her there tomorrow (Friday). I have prayed for this day.

Thanks to Senator Latz for his words at the last hearing. Following Vivian's arrest, I reached out to the City Attorney, I pushed for following through on the reasonable suspicion. To Senator Latz thank you, this is what needed to happen to help save our daughters life.

Our daughter Vivian has struggled with an addiction to huffing DFE-a toxic poison in compressed air the past few years.

This has changed who she is, and like so many others, we were not aware of "huffing", which made it harder to understand her changed behavior. Over the last couple of years, she has suffered seizures, been hospitalized, arrested, found in her vehicle huffing & passed out, following huffing her vehicle has been found in the ditch, loss of time from work and relationship struggles.

The addiction has increased. She previously purchased 1-3 cans a time. Last month she purchased 2 cases on consecutive days and each day the case was empty when Law Enforcement found her.

I made a visit to the family office supply store she purchased from. I explained the situation and asked that he not sell the product to her. The owner had no idea that people "huffed" this product. He said "I want nothing to do with the death of anyone. Better yet, I will take it off the shelf." 2 days later Viv returned at 8:15 a.m. and asked to purchase another case. His response, "Both your mom and law enforcement were here, and I could be held responsible if something happened to you."

The day following her DUI, I made a visit to the local Walmart store. I asked to speak with a manager. I explained the situation with our daughter and what Katie & I are doing at the Capitol. They removed the compressed air from the shelf in the Office Supply Area and Electronics.

When purchasing from big retail stores or online, self-checkouts are anonymous. It's convenient, there's no buying limits, no ID needed, no age requirements, no questions asked and it's cheap.

As parents desperately trying to prevent the unnecessary and untimely death of our child, we are asking you to pass this bill. For our Family & Vivian, for Tommy's family & his memory and everyone else out there facing the reality of an inevitable death of a loved one from DFE.

Please keep our daughter in your prayers. We never thought it would be us and here we are on the brink of losing our child.

Thank you all for your time.

Roxann & Roger Coan