

## North Central High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas

Proactive Law Enforcement ★ Creating Drug Free Communities ★ Aggressive Prosecution ★ Effective Demand Reduction

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Dear Co-Chairs and members of the committee,

On behalf of the North Central High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (North Central HIDTA), I am writing to express my support for House File 1429 and Senate File 2499. This important legislation aims to enhance Minnesota's ability to monitor and respond to the ongoing overdose crisis by expanding the utilization of the Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP). By integrating statewide, de-identified emergency medical services (EMS) overdose data into ODMAP, this bill will provide an essential tool for public health and safety officials to make informed, timely decisions in addressing drug-related overdoses.

The overdose epidemic continues to have devastating effects on communities across Minnesota and the nation. Timely and accurate data are critical in identifying trends, allocating resources, and implementing proactive interventions to prevent further loss of life. Currently, one of the biggest challenges in overdose tracking is the manual entry of data by overburdened first responders and health professionals. House File 1429 and Senate File 2499 will alleviate this burden by developing Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) that will enable the automatic transmission of selected overdose data directly from ambulance service providers into ODMAP. This automation will eliminate redundant manual data entry, streamline information sharing, and ensure the accuracy and comprehensiveness of overdose data.

By reducing administrative burdens and enhancing data collection efficiency, House File 1429 and Senate File 2499 will strengthen the ability of law enforcement, public health agencies, and policymakers to detect overdose spikes, deploy resources effectively, and implement targeted interventions. Improved real-time data availability will enable local officials to act swiftly in response to overdose incidents, thereby reducing response times, preventing further fatalities, and ensuring that communities receive the support they need.

This legislation represents a crucial step forward in Minnesota's efforts to address the overdose crisis with a more data-driven, coordinated, and proactive approach. By supporting House File 1429 and Senate File 2499, lawmakers can help build a more efficient and responsive system that will save lives and enhance the well-being of our communities.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or require further information.

Sincerely,

Ryan T. Shogren Executive Director North Central HIDTA