

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 27
OFFERED BY MS. PETTERSEN OF COLORADO

At the end of the bill, add the following:

1 **SEC. ____.** **NATIONAL CENTER TO STOP THE IMPORT OF IL-**
2 **LICIT SYNTHETIC DRUGS.**

3 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is within the Drug En-
4 forcement Administration a National Center to Stop the
5 Import of Illicit Synthetic Drugs (hereinafter referred to
6 as the “National Center”).

7 (b) **DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL CENTER TO STOP THE**
8 **IMPORT OF ILLICIT SYNTHETIC DRUGS.**—

9 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—There is a Director of the
10 National Center, who shall be the head of the Na-
11 tional Center, and who shall be appointed by the
12 President, by and with the advice and consent of the
13 Senate.

14 (2) **NO SIMULTANEOUS APPOINTMENT.**—The
15 Director of the National Center may not simulta-
16 neously serve in any other capacity in the executive
17 branch.

18 (c) **REPORT AND BRIEFING REQUIRED.**—

19 (1) **REPORT REQUIRED.**—Not later than 90
20 days after date of enactment of this Act, and annu-

1 ally thereafter, the Director of the National Center
2 shall submit to the Administrator of the Drug En-
3 forcement Administration a report including—

4 (A) an overview of how synthetic drugs
5 come into the United States;

6 (B) a strategic plan of action on each of
7 its primary missions under subsection (d); and

8 (C) identification of necessary resources
9 from agencies and Congress to accomplish the
10 primary missions under subsection (d).

11 (2) BRIEF REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days
12 after date of enactment of this Act, and annually
13 thereafter, the Director of the National Center shall
14 provide a brief to Congress on the report required
15 under paragraph (1).

16 (d) PRIMARY MISSIONS.—The primary missions of
17 the National Center shall be as follows:

18 (1) To serve as the primary organization in the
19 United States Government for analyzing, tracking,
20 and halting the movement of synthetic drugs domes-
21 tically, particularly as it relates to the trafficking of
22 fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, and precursor chemi-
23 cals to produce fentanyl.

24 (2) To serve as the primary organization in the
25 United States Government for tracking the move-

1 ments of persons trafficking in the synthetic drug
2 trade in the United States and overseas through in-
3 telligence gathering, in cooperation with other agen-
4 cies, including:

5 (A) The Drug Enforcement Administra-
6 tion.

7 (B) The Department of Justice.

8 (C) The Department of State.

9 (D) The Federal Bureau of Investigations.

10 (E) The Internal Revenue Service.

11 (F) The Department of the Treasury.

12 (G) The National Security Agency.

13 (H) The Central Intelligence Agency.

14 (I) The United States Postal Service.

15 (J) The Department of Homeland Secu-
16 rity.

17 (K) The United States Customs and Bor-
18 der Patrol.

19 (L) The Office of National Drug Control
20 Policy.

21 (M) The Office of the Director of National
22 Intelligence.

23 (3) To collect and share information with the
24 agencies identified under paragraph (2) to identify

1 and disrupt the movement of fentanyl from an origi-
2 nal source to a consumer.

3 (4) To develop a strategic plan to lead agencies,
4 as appropriate, in the execution of efforts to break
5 up the synthetic drug trade, including assigning
6 roles and responsibilities to such agencies.

7 (5) To ensure that agencies, as appropriate,
8 have access to and receive information from other
9 agencies, needed to execute their efforts to break up
10 the synthetic drug trade or perform independent, al-
11 ternative analysis of the synthetic drug trade.

12 (6) To ensure that agencies have access to and
13 receive intelligence needed to accomplish any activi-
14 ties assigned to such agency pursuant to this sub-
15 section.

16 (7) To serve as the central and shared knowl-
17 edge bank on known and suspected drug trafficking
18 organizations, both foreign and domestic, including
19 such organization's strategies, capabilities, and net-
20 works of contacts and support.

21 (8) To trace the sale proceeds of the synthetic
22 drug trade, to identify the interests of drug traf-
23 ficking organizations and persons trafficking in the
24 synthetic drug trade and reveal any network that fa-
25 cilities such trade.

1 (e) DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTOR.—

2 The Director shall:

3 (1) Serve in the President's cabinet as the prin-
4 cipal advisor to the President on the synthetic drug
5 trade.

6 (2) Provide strategic operational plans for ef-
7 forts of the United States Government to effectively
8 break up the synthetic drug trade, both foreign and
9 domestic.

10 (3) Advise the Secretary of State on intelligence
11 gathered related to the synthetic drug trade in for-
12 eign countries.

13 (4) Support relevant agencies in their efforts to
14 break up the synthetic drug trade.

15 (5) Testify before the appropriate Congressional
16 committees annually.

17 (f) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
18 tion shall be construed to limit the action of any person
19 acting in compliance with State law relating to the manu-
20 facture, production, possession, distribution, dispensation,
21 administration, or delivery of cannabis.

22 (g) SUNSET.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—The National Center shall
24 terminate on the date that is five years after the
25 date of the enactment of this Act.

1 (2) ADDITIONAL TIME PERIOD.—The President
2 may authorize the National Center to operate for an
3 additional two years after the date of termination
4 under paragraph (1).

5 (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

6 (1) AGENCY.—The term “agency” shall have
7 the meaning given such term in section 551 of title
8 5, United States Code.

9 (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
10 TEES.—The term “appropriate Congressional com-
11 mittees” means the—

12 (A) Financial Services Committee of the
13 House of Representatives;

14 (B) Committee on Energy and Commerce
15 of the House of Representatives;

16 (C) Committee on Foreign Affairs of the
17 House of Representatives; and

18 (D) Committee on Homeland Security of
19 the House of Representatives.

20 (3) DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION.—The
21 term “drug trafficking organization” means a com-
22 plex organization with highly defined command-and-
23 control structures that produce, transport, or dis-
24 tribute large quantities of one or more synthetic
25 drugs.

1 (4) PERSONS TRAFFICKING IN THE SYNTHETIC
2 DRUG TRADE.—The term “persons trafficking in the
3 synthetic drug trade” means a person that plays a
4 role in the synthetic drug trade.

5 (5) SYNTHETIC DRUG TRADE.—The term “syn-
6 thetic drug trade” means any illicit activity to cul-
7 tivate, produce, manufacture, distribute, sell, fi-
8 nance, or transport synthetic drugs, or otherwise en-
9 deavor or attempt to do so, or to assist, abet, con-
10 spire, or collude with others to do so.

