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June 22, 2023

The Honorable Aisha Wahab
Chair, Senate Public Safety Committee
1021 O St., Ste. 7330
Sacramento, CA 95814**RE: SUPPORT, AB 33 (Bains) Fentanyl Addiction and Overdose Prevention Task Force**

Dear Chairwoman Wahab,

On behalf of the Solano County Board of Supervisors, I write in support of AB 33, which would establish the Fentanyl Addiction and Overdose Prevention Task Force to undertake duties relating to fentanyl abuse, including, among others, collecting and organizing data on the nature and extent of fentanyl abuse in California and evaluating approaches to increase public awareness of fentanyl abuse.

Fentanyl addiction is a serious public safety and public health issue that requires an organized response. Establishing a Task Force that is dedicated to combating fentanyl addiction and death is essential. This Task Force will bring together law enforcement, public health officials, and healthcare providers to coordinate an effective response to the problem. The Task Force will focus on several different strategies, including increasing access to overdose-reversing drugs, improving substance use disorder treatment and recovery support, and crafting strategies to reduce the availability of illicit fentanyl. Working with law enforcement and public health officials, the Task Force can monitor drug distribution and develop strategies to prevent the use, manufacture, and distribution of illicit fentanyl.

Additionally, we support AB 33 because the task force would develop recommendations on what the state can do to prevent Fentanyl addiction, overdose and death from illegal use of the drug, and submit those findings to the Governor and the Legislature by July 1, 2025. By focusing on strategies to reduce the availability of fentanyl and increase public awareness, the Task Force can help to reduce the devastating impact that fentanyl is having on our communities. For these reasons, Solano County is pleased to support AB 33.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John M. Vasquez".

John M. Vasquez, Chair
Solano County Board of Supervisors**CC:**Members, Senate Public Safety Committee
The Honorable Jasmeet Bains, Assemblymember
The Honorable Bill Dodd, Senator
The Honorable Lori D. Wilson, Assemblymember
The Honorable Solano County Board of Supervisors
Karen Lange, SYASL Partners