



C.A.S.A

CALIFORNIA ALLIANCE FOR STATE ADVOCACY

April 17, 2023

Honorable Dave Cortese
Senator
1021 O Street, Suite 6630
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for SB 10 – Opioid & Fentanyl Overdose Prevention Among Youth

Dear Senator Cortese:

On behalf of The California Alliance for State Advocacy, I would like to convey our support of **Senate Bill 10** to require the state to expand prevention and education efforts to reduce fentanyl-related overdoses in schools.

The California Alliance for State Advocacy seeks to promote the advancement of addiction focused professionals by uniting alcoholism and addiction counselors, prevention specialists, and others who have a direct interest in the field of recovery throughout the State of California. This is done through legislative advocacy, professional growth opportunities, academic growth opportunities, business growth opportunities, peer assistance, and ethical standards.

Fentanyl has propelled opioid deaths to record highs. Among youth ages fifteen to twenty-four, fentanyl is responsible for more deaths among youth than all other drugs combined. In fact, it was reported that fentanyl was responsible for one in five deaths within this vulnerable population. But death by overdose is preventable; that is why we must ensure the tools and resources are made available to parents and students so they may be prepared to save a life.

SB 10 will expand statewide prevention and education efforts by requiring local education agencies to embed opioid overdose prevention and treatment strategies in their School Safety Plans. This includes measures including distributing safety advice regarding overdose prevention to families, developing an opioid antagonist training and school resource guide, and establishing working groups on fentanyl overdose and abuse prevention.

It is urgent that we stop the proliferation of preventable deaths by overdose. SB 10 will educate parents and provide them with vital resources they need to fight the opioid epidemic and protect their children.

Thank you for your leadership in supporting this important measure.

Sincerely,

Brooke Cianciotta, B.S.

Brooke Cianciotta, B.S./President