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GREG LAKIN
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An influx of cheaper and more potent heroin is arriving in the United States mostly from Mexico. Heroin use in the United States has increased by 63% over the last decade. Statistics compiled by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention indicate heroin deaths have quadrupled in the United States over the same time period.

Recently overdoses have skyrocketed due to the increase of heroin availability and the combining of heroin with synthetic carfentanil, trafficked in from China. Carfentanil can be 10,000 times more potent than morphine. Death can occur due to over sedation with respiratory suppression within minutes.

Quicker response times and wider uses of Naloxone (Narcan) is essential to reduce the number of deaths due to an overdose of heroin or opiate pain pills. Naloxone can be given onsite by nasospray or injection and works within minutes. It can be administered by first responders or anyone properly trained.

This current bill allows for increasing accessibility, training, and use of these lifesaving medications. It also provides hold harmless provisions for those responders and caregivers that may administer this medication on site.

This current bill has been drafted and vetted by a coalition of first responders and frontline health providers in response to this drastic need.

Please pass this coalition supported lifesaving bill cleanly out of committee with the urgency it deserves. **So we can start saving these lives as soon as possible.**

Respectfully submitted

Representative Greg Lakin #91