

## **National Border Patrol Council**

April 13, 2017

The Honorable Edward J. Markey United States Senate Washington, DC, 20510

The Honorable Sherrod C. Brown United States Senate Washington, DC, 20510

Dear Senators Markey and Brown:

On behalf of the 16,500 Border Patrol Agents I represent as President of the National Border Patrol Council, I am writing to you in full support of S. 708, the "International Narcotics Trafficking Emergency Response by Detecting Incoming Contraband with Technology (INTERDICT) Act. By sponsoring this bill, you are both acknowledging the grave public health crisis that is caused by the influx of opioids across our borders from countries like Mexico and China.

The Border Patrol Agents I represent are on the front lines of this war on heroin and opioid trafficking and this bill will ensure CBP will be better equipped to put an end to the devastating flow of synthetic opioids into the United States. In addition to supplemental personnel and facilities, this legislation will provide CBP with additional portable chemical screening devices at ports and fixed chemical screening devices at CBP laboratories.

I want to thank you both for your work in this fight against the heroin and opioid epidemic and I look forward to working with you to pass the INTERDCIT Act. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely

Brandon Judd

President

National Border Patrol Council