

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2982

To require a GAO study on the sale of illicit drugs online, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 28 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 22), 2023

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. LEE, Mr. WELCH, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. COONS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To require a GAO study on the sale of illicit drugs online, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Targeting Online Sales  
5 of Fentanyl Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. GAO STUDY ON THE SALE OF ILLICIT DRUGS ON-**  
7 **LINE.**

8 (a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United  
9 States shall conduct a study on the online sale of fentanyl  
10 and methamphetamine, including—

1           (1) business models employed by online sellers  
2 of fentanyl and methamphetamine, including an ex-  
3 amination of supply chains, logistics, and strategies  
4 utilized for customer acquisition, retention, and com-  
5 munication within illicit online marketplaces;

6           (2) utilization of online illicit drug markets and  
7 providers (as defined in section 2258E of title 18,  
8 United States Code) for facilitating financial trans-  
9 actions in the online sale of fentanyl and meth-  
10 amphetamine, with a particular focus on their im-  
11 pact on individuals who are 18 years of age and  
12 younger;

13           (3) efforts of the Federal Government to com-  
14 bat the online sale of fentanyl and methamphet-  
15 amine, including—

16               (A) interagency collaboration, including  
17 personnel detailed to other agencies to support  
18 efforts to combat the online trafficking of  
19 fentanyl and methamphetamine, and related il-  
20 licit finance;

21               (B) intergovernmental collaboration be-  
22 tween the Federal Government and State, Trib-  
23 al, local, and foreign governments;

1 (C) intersectoral collaboration with the pri-  
2 vate sector, including businesses and non-gov-  
3 ernmental organizations;

4 (D) examination of existing procedures fol-  
5 lowed by Federal law enforcement agencies in  
6 handling cases related to online sales of  
7 fentanyl and methamphetamine, encompassing  
8 the receipt, investigation, and prosecution proc-  
9 esses;

10 (E) analysis of aggregated outcomes from  
11 the past 10 years to identify patterns and areas  
12 for improvement; and

13 (F) identification of gaps or resource defi-  
14 ciencies in coordinating and collaborating activi-  
15 ties described in subparagraphs (A) through  
16 (E) to combat the online sale of fentanyl and  
17 methamphetamine;

18 (4) models utilized by providers, including ma-  
19 chine learning, algorithmic technology, and data  
20 analysis techniques, to effectively detect and combat  
21 the sale of fentanyl and methamphetamine on their  
22 platforms;

23 (5) enforcement mechanisms and processes em-  
24 ployed by providers to penalize users involved in the  
25 sale of fentanyl and methamphetamine, including

1 user identification, verification procedures, and sub-  
2 sequent actions, such as account suspension, report-  
3 ing to law enforcement agencies, and collaboration  
4 with legal proceedings; and

5 (6) analysis of referrals to the Federal Govern-  
6 ment by providers detailing information about online  
7 sales of fentanyl and methamphetamine, including—

8 (A) the number of referrals from providers  
9 to the Federal Government;

10 (B) the number of referrals that were in-  
11 vestigated by the Federal Government, includ-  
12 ing the agencies involved in the investigation  
13 and the outcome of the investigation;

14 (C) the number of referrals that resulted  
15 in an arrest, prosecution, or conviction, includ-  
16 ing the offense of the arrest, prosecution, or  
17 conviction; and

18 (D) the number of referrals that were  
19 shared by the Federal Government with a  
20 State, Tribal, or local government, including a  
21 law enforcement agency or prosecutor's office.

22 (b) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after  
23 the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General  
24 of the United States shall submit to Congress a report

- 1 containing all findings and determinations made in car-
- 2 rying out the study required under subsection (a).

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