



Oregon Narcotics Enforcement Association

June 10, 2025

The Honorable Ron Wyden
United States Senate
221 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Jeff Merkley
United States Senate
313 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Suzanne Bonamici
United States House of Representatives
2231 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Janelle Bynum
1508 Longworth House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Cliff Bentz
United States House of Representatives
409 Cannon House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Maxine Dexter
United States House of Representatives
1207 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Val Hoyle
United States House of Representatives
1620 Longworth House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Andrea Salinas
United States House of Representatives
403 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Wyden, Senator Merkley, Congresswoman Bonamici, Congressman Bentz, Congresswoman Bynum, Congresswoman Dexter, Congresswoman Hoyle and Congresswoman Salinas:

I write to you on behalf of the members of the Oregon Narcotics Enforcement Association (ONEA). ONEA represents the state and local law enforcement agencies tasked with enforcing the drug laws of Oregon.

We express our strong support for the Oregon-Idaho High Intensity Drug Trafficking Program (HIDTA) and its vital mission. HIDTA has long been a critical partner to Oregon law enforcement, promoting effective, collaborative efforts to combat drug trafficking and reduce its impact on our communities.

The Oregon-Idaho HIDTA supports 24 initiatives—most notably 19 multi-jurisdictional task forces, 14 of which operate in Oregon—that enhance intelligence sharing, interdiction efforts, and investigative capacity across the region. More than 90% of HIDTA's funding goes directly to state and local law enforcement, making it indispensable to operations in high-impact areas.

In 2024, Oregon-Idaho HIDTA initiatives achieved:

- Disruption or dismantling of 83 drug trafficking organizations.
- Seizure of over 3.2 million fentanyl pills, 181 kilograms of fentanyl powder, 1,568 kilograms of methamphetamine, 170 kilograms of cocaine, 20 kilograms of heroin, and 898 crime guns.
- Arrest of more than 2,100 drug traffickers and 732 fugitives.

- Recovery of over \$14 million in drug-related assets.

We are deeply concerned by the proposed FY2026 budget changes, which include a 35% reduction in funding and a structural shift from ONDCP to DOJ. These changes risk undermining HIDTA's proven collaborative governance model, reducing operational flexibility, and disrupting critical investigations. The current ONDCP framework empowers local agencies to develop targeted responses to evolving drug threats—flexibility that could be lost under a more centralized DOJ model.

The ONDCP budget is included in the Fiscal Year 2026 Financial Services and General Government Bill. A markup hearing for this bill is scheduled for June 23, 2025, with the Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee, chaired by Congressman Dave Joyce. The Department of Justice, which includes OJP, is scheduled for a markup hearing on July 7, 2025, with the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, chaired by Congressman Hal Rogers. Please communicate with your colleagues on these committees with any input or concerns you may have.

We respectfully urge decision-makers to carefully consider the consequences of these proposed changes. HIDTA's value lies in its ability to unify federal, state, tribal, and local agencies under a neutral and cooperative structure. Maintaining this structure and funding is essential to sustaining public safety across Oregon and the Pacific Northwest.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry Drum", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jerry Drum, President
ONEA