

SB 86: Making Fentanyl Test Strips Legal Senate Sponsor: Dr. Jen Plumb

The rise in fentanyl in the drug supply creates greater risk for those who use drugs to accidentally overdose, and increases potential for death from a drug related overdose. Per the Utah DHHS, fentanyl related drug overdose deaths have increased by 30 percent in the state of Utah since 2018. This bill intends to give people tools to detect what is in a drug supply. This will save lives, build better and collaborative responses from public health and public safety, and save in healthcare and related costs.

Helps expand public health efforts around preventing overdose deaths resulting in lives saved.

Currently, Utah DHHS and many other states distribute FTS through community programs. This bill will eliminate legal hurdles for providers to purchase FTS, and will create consistency with state programming and policy. States, like North Carolina, Ohio, and Texas have and are decriminalizing FTS.

FTS and DCD help individuals and systems understand what's in community available substances to prevent drug overdose deaths and identify ongoing and emerging public health and public safety drug threats.

Legal DCD would allow public health to expand efforts around saving lives and allow for more sophisticated testing to improve safety.

Low cost prevention.
These test strips cost a \$1, while Narcan kits can be up to \$50-\$150

Fentanyl is reported to be present in all types of substances acquired outside of a pharmacy setting.