

# United States Senate

January 2, 2018

Mr. Michael Gottlieb  
National HIDTA Director  
Executive Office of the President  
Programs Office  
Office of National Drug Control Policy  
750 17<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
Washington, DC 20006

Re: Alaska High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) designation

Dear Director Gottlieb,

I am writing in strong support of the state of Alaska's request for designation as a standalone High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) through the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP).

In Alaska we have seen a massive spike in opioid and heroin addiction throughout the state. I am very concerned, as are many Alaskans, about this persistent crisis affecting many of our communities and families. During my time in the Senate, I have been very focused on addressing this significant challenge for Alaska and America.

Despite the seriousness of the opioid and other illicit drug abuse in our state, Alaska remains the only state (or territory) in the United States without a HIDTA designation. Establishing the state of Alaska as a HIDTA would facilitate greater cooperation, criminal case coordination, and information sharing among the local, state, and federal agencies currently engaged in counter-drug trafficking operations in Alaska.

I support the inclusion of the state of Alaska into the ONDCP's High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area program. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Rachel Bylsma, Director of Constituent Relations in my Alaska office at 907-271-5947 or email her at [rachel\\_bylsma@sullivan.senate.gov](mailto:rachel_bylsma@sullivan.senate.gov).

Sincerely,



Dan Sullivan  
United States Senator