

United States Senate

April 27, 2018

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
Attorney General
United States Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20530-0001

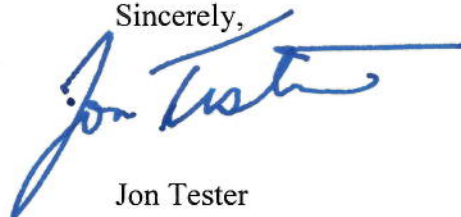
Mr. Attorney General:

I am pleased to hear that you are in Billings, Montana today to learn more about how our nation's drug crisis is affecting Montana. You have no doubt seen the ways that drug use and addiction has driven our criminal justice system, and the statistics I continue to see are only getting worse. In Montana, we continue to see the devastation caused by illicit drugs, particularly methamphetamine. Violations involving meth have spiked in the last five years, rising 427 percent from 2010 to 2015. I stand ready to work with you and all of my colleagues to combat this pervasive threat to our communities.

Our local, state, and tribal law enforcement officers are our first line of defense when it comes to getting meth and other drugs off our streets and out of our communities. However, the jobs of our law enforcement officers are getting more difficult as traffickers continually learn new ways to bring drugs into our state in purer, more dangerous forms. It is vital that our local law enforcement keep up in order to ensure our families and communities are safe. But right now we are asking them to do more with inadequate resources. That is why I recently introduced the ANTI Drugs Act (S. 2709) which would increase resources for local law enforcement officials to better allow them to combat the flow of narcotics in Montana. I would appreciate your support in moving this legislation forward.

We ask a lot of our local law enforcement, and providing federal resources is the most effective way we can help in their effort. We must do better to help our law enforcement officers keep our communities safe. I look forward to working with you and my colleagues to address our nation's drug crisis.

Sincerely,



Jon Tester