

Section-by-Section

The Bipartisan HIDTA Reauthorization Act of 2024

Section 1 — Short Title

Section 2 (1) — Assessment of Drug Enforcement Task Forces in High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas

- Current law requires the ONDCP Director to include in the annual National Drug Control Strategy an assessment detailing how HIDTA task forces coordinate and share information with each other, other law enforcement agencies, and joint terrorism task forces.
- This section would require the assessment to also include collaboration and information sharing with immigration authorities.

Section 2 (2) — Assessment of Law Enforcement Intelligence Sharing in High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas

- Current law requires the ONDCP Director and the DNI to submit to Congress, as part of the National Drug Control Strategy, an assessment on the extent to which law enforcement intelligence information is shared in HIDTAs.
- This section would explicitly require the assessment to include intelligence sharing with immigration authorities in HIDTAs.

Section 2 (3) - Reauthorization of the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program

- The authorization of appropriations for the HIDTA program is set to expire at the end of Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 at a level of \$280M.
- This section would reauthorize and increase funding for the HIDTA program at \$302M annually through FY 2026, the most recently appropriated level.

Section 2 (4) - Fentanyl Interdiction Activities

- Current law provides for a supplemental competitive grant program with \$10M, administered by the ONDCP, to allow HIDTAs that have experienced high seizures of fentanyl to apply for funding to support procurement of fentanyl protective equipment, overdose reversal drugs, fentanyl handling training, etc.
- This section would, subject to the availability of appropriations, authorize a new ONDCP-administered supplemental grant program to support enhanced fentanyl-related

interdiction and disruption activities conducted by individual HIDTAs. The program would be authorized at \$15M annually for Fiscal Years 2024 through 2026.

Section 2 (4) - Use of Funds to Combat Fentanyl

- Current law requires the ONDCP Director to submit to Congress a report detailing the use of HIDTA funds to investigate and prosecute organizations and individuals trafficking methamphetamine (meth), including amounts of meth seized in the HIDTA during the previous year, as well as patterns and trends in abuse, trafficking, and transportation.
- This section requires the ONDCP Director to submit a similar report to Congress on the use of HIDTA funds to investigate and prosecute entities trafficking fentanyl in the prior calendar year, including patterns and trends in abuse, trafficking, and transportation.
- This section would help ensure congressional oversight of the use of the \$ 15M in supplement grant funding for fentanyl interdiction and disruptions activities.

Section 2 (4) - Additional Prosecutorial Resources

- This section would, subject to the availability of appropriations, authorize \$5M for the Attorney General, at the request of individual HIDTA directors, to assign up to 16 Assistant U.S. Attorneys (AUSAs) for Fiscal Years 20242026 to specific HIDTAs to prosecute fentanyl-related cases originating from HIDTA investigations to which they are assigned. Not later than 180 days after the Act takes effect, the Attorney General shall establish a process for HIDTAs to apply for an AUSA to be temporarily assigned to that individual HIDTA.