

June 5, 2017  
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Dear Mr President:

I am very concerned by drug overdoses. Opioid overdoses is now the leading cause of death among young adults. This problem has been expanding rapidly and demands federal action. Various effective interventions have been tried at the state level. These include the 911 good Samaritan law which shields those reporting overdoses from arrest, easy access to antidotes and treatment programs. It also makes sense to cut back on advertising and distribution as advocated in a law suit brought by several states. I am pleased to see that you have signed an executive order recognizing the problem but immediate more concrete action is called for. It is upsetting to see your Attorney General advocating longer prison terms instead, an approach which was tried and found to fail during the drug epidemic of the 90s. It is also upsetting to see you praising President Duterte who is currently involved in a completely ineffective, extraordinarily violent and morally bankrupt antidrug campaign in the Phillipines.

*Please assure me that you will focus on reducing overdose deaths.*

I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from our effective government.

Sincerely,  
Eric Babson