[Your Name]
[Your Address]
[City, State, ZIP Code]
[Email Address]
[Phone Number]
[Date]

[Congressman/Senator's Name]
[Office Address]
[City, State, ZIP Code]

Dear [Congressman/Senator's Name],

I am writing to you as a concerned constituent to inquire about the presence of harm reduction policies in our community and any related bills being considered in Congress. Harm reduction policies and approaches might aim to minimize the negative health, social, and legal impacts associated with drug use, drug policies, and drug laws, but research indicates these dangerous policies ultimately enable harmful behavior.

I think Biomedical Ethicist Nicholas King summed it up best when he wrote, “If we are to be truly utilitarian about our assessment of these programs, it is worth asking whether, on balance, the harm reduced by preventing an overdose death actually outweighs the harms of continuing to use illegal drugs, living with an addiction, and causing continued suffering to those who are addicted and their families and caregivers.”[[1]](#endnote-1)

In practice, the focus of safe injections sites is too much on safe injection and not enough on overcoming the disease. One study found that fewer than 7% of users of safe injection sites accept referrals to any kind of addiction treatment.[[2]](#endnote-2) And why would they? There’s no incentive to get off drugs if you’re being provided with a warm, safe place to do drugs. That is the definition of rewarding bad behavior. And when we reward bad behavior, other people get hurt. Because safe injection sites reduce only one kind of “harm.” They don’t focus on restoring the person to wholeness or wellness- physically, mentally, spiritually, or socially.[[3]](#endnote-3)

I am particularly interested in understanding what harm reduction policies are currently in place in our community and whether there are any bills or initiatives at the federal level aimed at adopting other harm reduction policies. I would like to know your stance on harm reduction strategies and how you would vote on any relevant legislation that comes before Congress.

As your constituent, I urge you to prioritize the well-being of our community members by voting against any proposals of harm reduction policies.

I look forward to hearing from you on this important matter and appreciate your attention to this critical issue. Thank you for your service and dedication to representing our community's interests in Congress.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]

1. “As the Biomedical Ethicist Nicholas King writes…” Nicholas B. King, “Harm Reduction: A Misnomer,” *Health Care Analysis* 28, no. 4 (2020): 324–34, https://doi.org/10.1007/s10728-020-00413-x. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. “One study found that fewer than 7% of users of safe injection sites…” Steven Bozza and Jeffrey Berger, “Safe Injection Sites: A Moral Reflection,” *The Linacre Quarterly* 87, no. 1 (February 1, 2020): 85–93, https://doi.org/10.1177/0024363919861590. [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. “They don’t focus on restoring the person to wholeness…” Bozza and Berger. [↑](#endnote-ref-3)