

March 12, 2024

To Whom it may concern,

First thank you for the opportunity to speak on this matter. My name is Mindy Cox and I have lost 2 nephews, a niece and my best friend to illicit fentanyl. My nephew David and my best friend Monica might have been able to be saved had no one been so scared to call 911. They were both in a house full of people, people they thought were their friends and cared, but in the end they lost their lives due to the fact that everyone was scared. They were all using I'm sure and when they realized there was something wrong no one did what should've been done out of fear. Had this law been in place I believe they would have.

David was 16 and with a group of friends, he left behind a son as well. He had hopes and dreams for his family and his son. He wanted to give his son a better life than he had, he wanted to be the best dad. He made a wrong choice and that choice cost him his life. Yet had this law been in place I feel like the outcome could have been different.

Monica was 36 and suffered from addiction most of her life, to say she had a rough go would be an understatement. Monica was also with a group of people whom she believed to be her friends. I believe Monica definitely could have been saved, no one wanted to call the police and made it known that no one was to call the police, finally someone managed to break away and made the phone call and upon arrival she was deceased. Everyone was scared they would be arrested, so no one did anything, but had this law been in place they could have saved her, she would still be here for her 2 sons and her daughter. She would be here for her nieces and nephews, for her brothers, for me and the countless other people that did truly love her.

People will never stop using drugs, that's unfortunately a proven fact, but we can help save lives, we can make it easier for people to pick up the phone and dial 911 to get others help without the fear of being arrested themselves. We are currently 1 of 2 states that are left in the United States to not have a Good Samaritan Law in place, please help us change this, help us to make it easier for people to be willing to call to get help, help us make a change. I know many people look at them as just drug addicts but those drug addicts were and are deeply loved and they deserve for their voices to be heard as well. They deserved a chance. Thank you for your time and listening.

Sincerely,

A recovered addict, former lost soul and broken hearted friend and aunt
Mindy Cox