

Fentanyl: the drug that killed 106,000 people divides Congress

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The Congress of the United States of America has just entered into a serious debate on how to handle the problem, in which many regions of that country have been drowned by the excess of fentanyl addicts, the so-called zombie drug that will kill 106,000 people in 2022 alone.

In full swing due to the upcoming election campaign, and in which President Joe Biden wants to step in, the Capitol is divided between those who want to oppose this wave of vices with force and punishment, consumers and merchants alike and those who think so. The application of a preventive policy aimed at public health is necessary. And there is no small debate.

In a hearing in Congress, in which this question was resolved, Erin Rachwal told that Logan, her 19-year-old son, was killed by this drug two years ago.

“No family is immune from this risk,” he said. And he declared that he did not know “neither the bitterness nor the lethality of fentanyl until his tragic death (as his son’s)”, despite the fact that more than 106,000 people in the country died of drug overdose or accidental poisoning last year.

Timothy Westlake, an ER doctor, said fentanyl is so toxic that “it’s used as a chemical weapon.” And he warned: “one teaspoon can kill five thousand people.”

In this scenario, the Congress seats of both – Democrats and Republicans – recognize the urgency to find a solution, but each party chooses different paths.

Republican Troy Nehls, from Texas, a state bordering Mexico – where the cartels produce more fentanyl with chemical precursors from China – is being defended with a heavy hand.

He said he was in favor of “making the sale and distribution of fentanyl a capital offense and the use of death.” Of course, he admitted that he did not solve this problem.

Derek Maltz, a former agent of the US drug enforcement agency (DEA), was blunt: “The narcoterrorists in Mexico are destroying our country, they must be held accountable, even if it means using our military.”

And he added: “We must destroy those production operators, and we cannot believe that Mexico will do that.”

On the other hand, Democrat Sheila Jackson Lee argued against increasing minimum sentences because it would prevent judges from considering “the individual facts and circumstances of the individual.”

This is supported by Jeffrey A. Singer, a researcher at the Cato Foundation Institute, who has been wrong about the amount. He decided that “the threat of drug traffickers with life in prison or the death penalty will deter drug trafficking” because most of them “already take risks when they enter the business and are more afraid of being killed by rivals than of being killed”. The United States Department of Justice arrested them.”

“It’s an ironclad prohibition law that encourages cartels to come up with more powerful forms,” such as xylazine, a veterinary sedative that’s mixed with fentanyl and can cause deadly ulcers.

Or another synthetic opioid, nitazene. “It’s not surprising if two or three years later we’re talking about the nitazene crisis instead of the fentanyl crisis,” he warned. While this is going on in the Capitol, the cities of Philadelphia and Los Angeles are seeing their entire towns surrendered as if they were the living dead.