P.O. Box 95735 Albuquerque, NM 87199 (505) 235-6323

## RE: Support HB 274 Trafficking Fentanyl as 1st Degree Felony

Mr./Madame Chair and Committee Members:

Better Together New Mexico (BTNM) brings together hundreds of advocacy groups and thousands of New Mexicans statewide. Our mission is to unite New Mexicans through grassroots initiatives and work to positively shape the decisions that affect our lives, families, and communities.

BTNM strongly supports HB 274 Trafficking Fentanyl as a 1st Degree Felony as a vital step toward enhancing public safety in New Mexico. This bill establishes life imprisonment as the standard sentence for those convicted of fentanyl trafficking, ensuring that offenders face the most severe consequences.

By imposing stronger penalties, this legislation holds criminals accountable, removes dangerous individuals from our streets, and helps protect communities across the state.

For these reasons and others articulated by the bill sponsor, we strongly urge you to vote YES on HB 274 to support the safety and well-being of all New Mexicans.

Thank you for considering my comments,

Carla J. Sonntag

President & CEO