

Senator Grant Hauschild

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Senate

State of Minnesota

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Subject: Opposition to the Clemency of Jim Carlson of Duluth

Dear President Biden,

I am writing to express my deep concern and opposition to the recent granting of clemency to Jim Carlson, who was sentenced for selling synthetic drugs from his store, Last Place on Earth, in downtown Duluth, MN. As a State Senator representing northern Minnesota, I know the devastating effects that Mr. Carlson's actions had on our community. I urge you to reconsider and rescind this commutation, as it undermines the years of work that law enforcement and the local community dedicated to addressing the harm caused by his illegal activities.

Mr. Carlson's actions inflicted immeasurable damage on the Duluth community. His sale of synthetic drugs fueled widespread addiction, tearing apart families and creating a public safety crisis that impacted local businesses, residents, and the overall quality of life in downtown Duluth. The influx of individuals suffering from addiction strained local resources, overburdened law enforcement, and created an environment of fear and instability. Local business owners faced decreased foot traffic, tarnished reputations, and financial losses due to the chaos and unsafe conditions generated by the rampant drug use directly linked to Last Place on Earth.

Families across Duluth and northern Minnesota have suffered long-term harm as a result of synthetic drugs. These substances wreaked havoc on the health and well-being of those who used them, many of whom became trapped in cycles of addiction and despair. The actions of Jim Carlson were not just illegal—they were reckless, endangering countless lives and prioritizing profit over the safety and welfare of our community.

This commutation is particularly disheartening to the law enforcement officers and legal professionals who worked tirelessly to bring Mr. Carlson to justice. Their efforts to remove dangerous synthetic drugs from our streets and hold bad actors accountable were instrumental in helping Duluth recover from the damage caused by his actions. Law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and local leaders should be supported and commended for their role in maintaining public safety, not undermined by the commutation that erases

accountability for those who created such harm.

By granting clemency to Jim Carlson, the message sent to communities like Duluth is that those who profit from endangering lives can avoid full accountability. This decision jeopardizes the trust and morale of the law enforcement officers and community leaders who work to make our neighborhoods safe.

I respectfully urge you to reconsider this commutation and to rescind it. Communities like Duluth need to know that their struggles to rebuild from crises like these are recognized and supported by their federal leaders.

Thank you for your time and attention to this serious matter. I look forward to your response and hope that the administration will prioritize the voices and well-being of communities like Duluth in future considerations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Grant Hauschild". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G" and a long, sweeping tail.

Grant Hauschild
State Senator, District 3