

Cooper Davis Act Protects America's Youth Against Deadly Fentanyl-Laced Fake Meds Sold Online Bipartisan Bill Helps Law Enforcement Fight Digital Drug Dealers Targeting Kids Via Social Media

WASHINGTON, DC – April 24, 2023 – The Alliance for Safe Online Pharmacies (ASOP Global) supports the bipartisan Cooper Davis Act as an important weapon to help federal, state, and local law enforcement fight the illegal online sale of counterfeit medicine laced with potentially deadly doses of fentanyl. The bill, cosponsored by Senators Roger Marshall, MD, Jeanne Shaheen, Chuck Grassley, Dick Durbin, Todd Young, and Amy Klobuchar, arms prosecutors with a powerful new tool that would hold digital drug dealers accountable for targeting America's youth via social media platforms.

Like longstanding laws about reporting child sexual abuse material online, the Cooper Davis Act requires social media companies and other communication service providers to inform law enforcement when illicit fentanyl and other deadly controlled substances are distributed via their platforms through a standardized and comprehensive reporting mechanism. The legislation was developed with input from organizations representing families of victims, community leaders, law enforcement, federal prosecutors, pharmaceutical manufacturers and distributors, healthcare providers, and the technology industry.

"Cooper Davis was a real 16-year-old whose life was cut tragically short by criminals that exploit anonymous online platforms for profit," said Libby Baney, partner at Faegre Drinker LLP and senior advisor to ASOP Global. "ASOP Global commends the bill's cosponsors and urges swift passage of this legislation to ensure that law enforcement has the necessary tools to stop criminals online and protect the health of young Americans."

To learn more about the public health risks posed by online pharmacies and counterfeit drugs, visit ASOP Global's Bad Meds campaign.

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ABOUT ASOP GLOBAL

The Alliance for Safe Online Pharmacies (ASOP Global), a 501(c)(4) non-profit organization headquartered in Washington, D.C., with activities in the U.S., Canada, Europe, Latin America, and Asia, is dedicated to protecting consumers around the world, ensuring safe access to medications, and combating illegal online drug sellers.