

ASOP Global Statement on FDA Approval of Florida Drug Importation Plan

WASHINGTON, DC (January 5, 2024) – In response to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) approval of Florida's Section 804 importation program (SIP), [the Alliance for Safe Online Pharmacies](#) (ASOP Global) Board of Directors released the following statement:

The FDA's decision to approve Florida's proposed SIP is misguided and moves the state one step closer to implementing a drug importation scheme that could fundamentally undermine safeguards designed to protect patients from counterfeit drugs and illegal online drug sales. While we recognize the importance of reducing the costs of prescription medicines for Americans, approving Florida's SIP gives many consumers a false impression that purchasing discount medications from foreign online drug sellers is a safe option.

ASOP Global has repeatedly raised concerns that the SIPs would provide further opportunities for infiltration of substandard and counterfeit products into our otherwise closed U.S. drug supply chain. We urge FDA to do everything they can to ensure that patients do not receive counterfeit or substandard medications as a result of this risky decision.

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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.