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ASOP Global Applauds Senate HELP Committee for Advancing SAFE Drugs Act

WASHINGTON, D.C (July 22, 2026)— The [Alliance for Safe Online Pharmacies \(ASOP Global\)](#) today applauded the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions for advancing the bipartisan Safeguarding Americans from Fraudulent and Experimental (SAFE) Drugs Act during its July 22 markup.

Introduced by Senators Jim Banks (R-IN) and Martin Heinrich (D-NM), the SAFE Drugs Act would strengthen patient-safety protections in federal drug law and address regulatory gaps that bad actors can exploit to mass-produce and market unapproved medicines, including products sold online without appropriate oversight.

“The committee’s action is an important step toward closing loopholes that allow unsafe and unapproved medicines to reach patients, particularly through online channels,” said Leigh Verbois, ASOP Global Board Chair and former Director of the Office of Drug Security, Integrity, and Response at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). “Compounding can play an important role in meeting an individual patient’s medical needs, but it should not provide a pathway for bad actors to mass-produce and market copies of FDA-approved medicines without appropriate safeguards. We thank Senators Banks and Heinrich and the HELP Committee for putting patient safety first.”

The need for stronger federal safeguards is underscored by the [ASOP Global Foundation’s 2025 U.S. Consumer Behavior Survey](#). The survey found that 73% of Americans falsely believe compounded medicines are evaluated by FDA for safety and effectiveness, while 39% of people who have purchased prescription medicines online report buying compounded products. More than one in four online purchasers report personally receiving a counterfeit or substandard medicine or being harmed by a medicine purchased online.

ASOP Global also supports the committee’s decision to include Senator Tommy Tuberville’s (R-AL) amendment to the Make America’s Food Safer Act. The amendment would strengthen federal efforts to prevent counterfeit, unapproved, misbranded and adulterated drugs and drug ingredients from entering the United States and improve visibility into foreign pharmaceutical supply chains.

“Protecting patients also requires greater transparency and accountability across the global drug supply chain,” Verbois said. “Illegal sellers can exploit cross-border networks and digital platforms to obscure the origin and quality of their products. Senator Tuberville’s amendment would provide important additional protections against dangerous medicines and ingredients reaching American consumers.”

ASOP Global urges the full Senate to build on today’s bipartisan action and advance these critical patient-safety protections.

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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. Learn more at buysaferx.pharmacy.