## **NEWS RELEASE**

## Steve Marshall Alabama Attorney General



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For **press** inquiries only, contact:
Amanda Priest (334) 322-5694
William Califf (334) 604-3230
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## Attorney General Marshall Calls on DEA to ban 'Designer Xanax'

(Montgomery, Ala) – Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall joined a coalition of 21 attorneys general calling on the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to take emergency action to schedule a drug linked to deaths across the country.

In a letter to DEA Administrator Terry Cole, the attorneys general sounded the alarm on bromazolam, a dangerous and unregulated designer drug often referred to as "designer Xanax." They outlined safety concerns calling bromazolam "highly potent and unpredictable." The letter reads in part, "Unlike regulated medications, illicitly manufactured bromazolam lacks any quality controls, making it particularly lethal for unsuspecting users."

Taking emergency action would help law enforcement remove bromazolam from circulation, give prosecutors the tools to hold traffickers accountable, and send a clear signal it has no place on America's streets.

"As we have witnessed firsthand, our coalition is confident that President Trump is deeply committed to the health and safety of every American. Bromazolam is an exceedingly dangerous substance that poses an urgent threat to our communities. To combat this menace effectively, our law enforcement agencies require immediate and comprehensive resources," stated Attorney General Marshall. "We urgently call on the DEA and the Trump Administration to recognize the gravity of this issue and take decisive action to eliminate this drug from our neighborhoods. The time for a strong, proactive response is now."

Attorney General Marshall joined the Kentucky-led letter with attorneys general from Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.

Read the letter.

