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October 16, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

The Honorable Pete Hegseth
Secretary
U.S. Department of War
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301-1000

Dear Mr. President and Secretary Hegseth:

As Attorneys General, we commend your recent direct and decisive actions to protect the United States and its citizens from the dangerous cartels plaguing the American people. Without question, there is no greater duty placed upon government than the protection of its citizenry. We believe that our Constitution empowers the President as the Commander in Chief of our armed forces to protect our homeland, and we applaud your recent proper exercise of this authority to protect against violent cartels that are flooding our country with deadly and illegal drugs. If necessary, however, we would urge Congress to confirm what we believe the Constitution says.

In FY 2024, U.S. Customs and Border Protection seized nearly 22,000 lbs. of cartel-smuggled fentanyl crossing into the United States. That is enough fentanyl to kill the entire American population fourteen times over. If any other foreign adversary threatened this much destruction, we would go to war. In fact, the number of Americans who have died from fentanyl is now comparable to the total U.S. casualties in World War II.

The consequences of the illegal drug invasion are everywhere in this country, and we see these consequences in nearly every aspect of our law enforcement and prosecution efforts. Drug trafficking remains rampant in gang activity, human trafficking, organized retail crime, and many other types of crime. Gangs regularly engage in drug trafficking and violence over illegal drug dealing. Human traffickers are often involved in the illegal drug trade as well, including dealing to their victims and engaging in trafficking to fund their own drug operations.

Further, illegal drugs have a significant negative impact on state and local law enforcement across the country. Illegal drugs fueled by the cartels not only increase the workload for law enforcement officers who must dedicate substantial time and resources to combat drug trafficking and distribution but also expose them to volatile and often dangerous situations within their communities. The presence of illegal drugs can make it incredibly difficult for law enforcement to maintain their own safety as well as the safety of the citizenry across this country.

The cartels are also crippling the public health of our country. Illegal drug use is causing major physical and mental health issues, including addiction, overdose, and the spread of infectious diseases. It is also causing a significant and costly strain on the healthcare system due to all the medical resources necessary to treat drug users who have been hooked on drugs due to the illegal activity of the cartels. In addition to these more direct health related issues, illegal drug use is leading to socially unstable communities and is negatively impacting the overall public well-being of America.

Again, we appreciate the direct and decisive actions that you are taking against the illegal drug cartels invading our country. As Attorneys General, we stand ready to support you in your continued efforts to protect our country and our states.

Sincerely,



Christopher M. Carr
Georgia Attorney General



Steve Marshall
Alabama Attorney General



Tim Griffin
Arkansas Attorney General



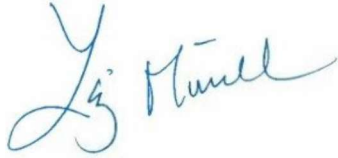
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