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December 16, 2013

Margaret A. Hamburg, M.D.
Commissioner
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
10903 New Hampshire Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002

Dear Dr. Hamburg:

State Attorneys General have pursued a holistic approach to end our nation's prescription-drug abuse epidemic. This approach includes evidence-based prevention, robust law-enforcement operations targeting diverted pharmaceuticals, and the implementation of state-operated prescription-drug monitoring programs. This balanced attack, combined with the efforts of the Drug Enforcement Administration, has undoubtedly saved many lives by preventing prescription-drug overdoses.

The State Attorneys General want to thank you for your recent efforts to ensure branded opioid drugs have abuse-deterrent formulations. But we must go further. Ensuring that generic opioids, like their branded counterparts, have abuse-deterrent properties is a commonsense improvement that provides yet another important tool in the fight against our nation's prescription drug epidemic.

Accordingly, the undersigned State Attorneys General respectfully request that the FDA provide clear and fair regulatory standards for the incorporation of abuse-deterrent technologies into generic opioids. The FDA has been an excellent partner in fighting prescription drug abuse, and we look forward to continuing to work with you in ending this epidemic.

Sincerely,

Pamela Jo Bondi
Florida Attorney General

Samuel S. Olens
Georgia Attorney General

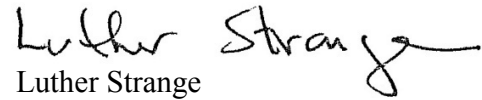
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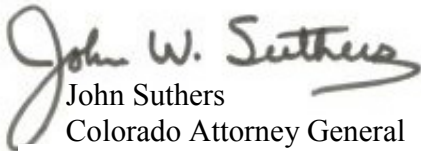
Luther Strange
Alabama Attorney General



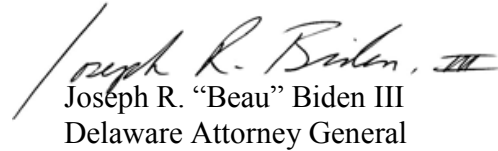
Tom Horne
Arizona Attorney General



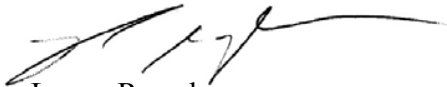
Dustin McDaniel
Arkansas Attorney General



John Suthers
Colorado Attorney General



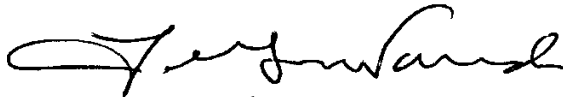
Joseph R. "Beau" Biden III
Delaware Attorney General



Lenny Rapadas
Guam Attorney General



David Louie
Hawaii Attorney General



Lawrence Wasden
Idaho Attorney General



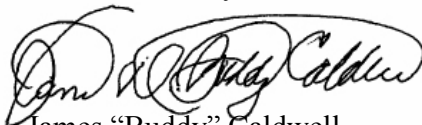
Lisa Madigan
Illinois Attorney General



Greg Zoeller
Indiana Attorney General



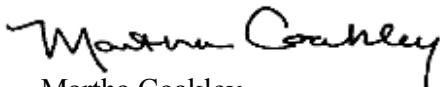
Tom Miller
Iowa Attorney General



James "Buddy" Caldwell
Louisiana Attorney General



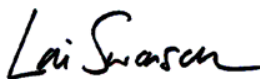
Douglas F. Gansler
Maryland Attorney General



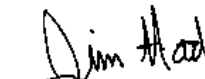
Martha Coakley
Massachusetts Attorney General



Bill Schuette
Michigan Attorney General



Lori Swanson
Minnesota Attorney General



Jim Hood
Mississippi Attorney General



Tim Fox
Montana Attorney General



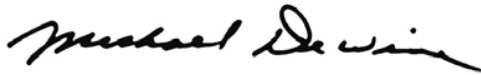
Catherine Cortez Masto
Nevada Attorney General



John Hoffman
Acting New Jersey Attorney General



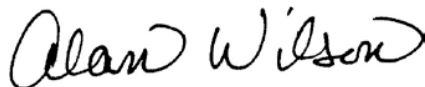
Roy Cooper
North Carolina Attorney General



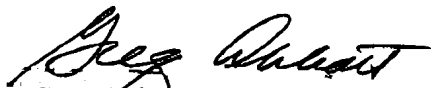
Mike DeWine
Ohio Attorney General



Kathleen Kane
Pennsylvania Attorney General



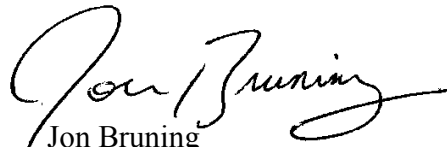
Alan Wilson
South Carolina



Greg Abbott
Texas Attorney General



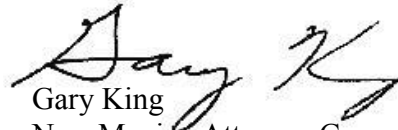
William H. Sorrell
Vermont Attorney General



Jon Bruning
Nebraska Attorney General



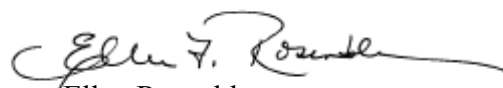
Joseph Foster
New Hampshire Attorney General



Gary King
New Mexico Attorney General



Wayne Stenehjem
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Ellen Rosenblum
Oregon Attorney General



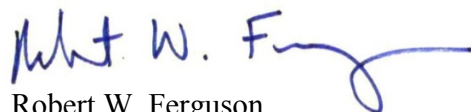
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Patrick Morrisey

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