



February 18, 2025

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Re: Next steps to close the *de minimis* trade loophole to fentanyl smuggling

Dear President Trump:

Thank you for recognizing the role that the *de minimis* trade loophole plays in enabling the deadly flow of fentanyl and other illicit goods in our country, and for taking action to strip Chinese commercial shipments of duty-free *de minimis* treatment among the first steps of your new administration as part of your executive action on penalty tariffs on China. We are seeking the administration’s reinstatement of the ban immediately and making it global and permanent.

Given the *de minimis* crisis and the high volume of illicit and dangerous products flooding our market, we urge your administration to take the next step and use your existing executive authority to shut down *de minimis* for commercial packages entirely coming from any country to the United States. This is the only approach to quickly and comprehensively close this outdated and dangerous loophole, which is an essential step in countering the fentanyl crisis it has helped to facilitate.

Specifically, we ask that your next steps include:

1. Ending commercial *de minimis* shipments from all countries — so that smuggling under *de minimis* doesn’t simply shift from one location to another;
2. Ensuring shipments can no longer evade Customs reporting and inspections — by requiring the necessary information for both tariff collection and effective inspection, including HTS code, country of origin,

manufacturers ID, product description, weight and value of all foreign shipments into the United States including small packages, by also requiring the use of a licensed customs broker to ensure such information is correct and that a U.S. party is accountable, and by significantly increasing penalties for non-compliant actors; and

3. Making the action permanent — so that the *de minimis* trade loophole for fentanyl smuggling is ended once and for all.

As described in our January 13th letter (re-attached [here](#)), closing down the *de minimis* pipeline for fentanyl smuggling is literally a matter of life and death. We look forward to your continued leadership on this issue, and are eager to be resources for your administration.

Sincerely,

Achieve Greatness
Coalition for a Prosperous America
Facing Fentanyl
Families Against Fentanyl
Fentanyl Victims Network of North Carolina
Kelsie's Cause
Lost Voices of Fentanyl
National Association of Police Organizations
National Crime Prevention Council
Shatterproof
United Against Fentanyl
Victims of Illicit Drugs (VOID)
Voices for Awareness