



Attorney General

Jeff Jackson

Attorney General Jeff Jackson Leads Bipartisan Group of AGs Urging Federal Action on Fentanyl Money Laundering Through Chinese-Based Messaging App

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, March 23, 2026

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RALEIGH – Attorney General Jeff Jackson led a bipartisan group of attorneys general today asking the president and the federal government to take action to address the issue of drug traffickers using messaging apps like WeChat and its Chinese-based sister app, Weixin, to facilitate fentanyl trafficking and money laundering.



Fentanyl kills about six North Carolinians a day. Billions of dollars in drug proceeds are laundered each year through an underground banking network that relies heavily on messaging apps, and earlier this month, Attorney General Jeff Jackson led a bipartisan coalition that secured enforceable commitments from WeChat to help law enforcement disrupt that pipeline.

But there's a gap the coalition can't close on its own.

WeChat's Chinese-based sister app, Weixin, operates under Chinese data privacy laws and does not respond to U.S. law enforcement requests. Since many of the money brokers facilitating fentanyl transactions are based in China and use Weixin, American investigators hit a wall when the trail crosses that border.

Today, Attorney General Jackson and the same bipartisan coalition sent a letter to the president asking the federal government to work with Chinese government counterparts to close that gap.

“We got WeChat to the table and secured real commitments, but its sister app in China is still a black box for American law enforcement,” said **Attorney General Jeff Jackson**. “If the federal government makes this a priority with China, we can shut down the financial pipeline that keeps fentanyl flowing into the country.”

The coalition’s earlier work with WeChat has already produced results. The company agreed to deploy money laundering identification tools, respond to law enforcement requests for account information, and process emergency requests within 48 hours. Opioid overdose deaths have been declining since 2023, in large part because federal, state, and local partnerships have expanded drug treatment options, increased seizures at ports of entry, and cracked down on the chemicals used to make fentanyl.

Closing the Weixin gap is the next step. Without access to data on the China-based platform, law enforcement cannot fully dismantle the international networks laundering drug profits.

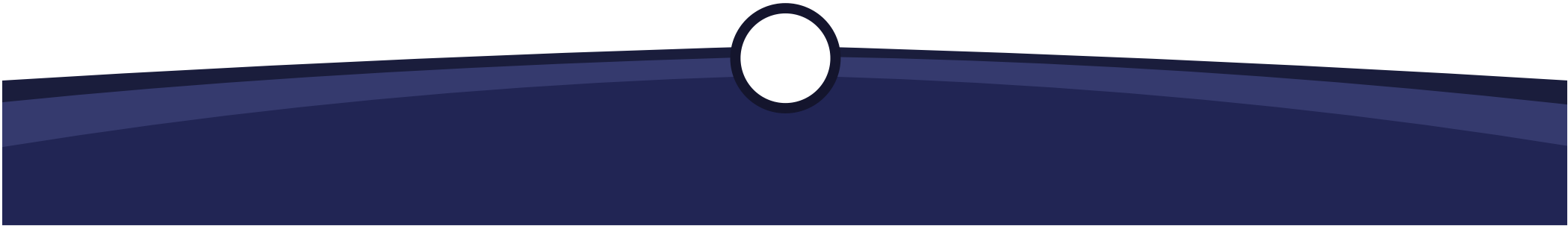
Attorney General Jackson is joined in sending this letter by the Attorneys General of South Carolina, Colorado, Kentucky, New Hampshire, and New Jersey.

A copy of the letter is available [here](#).

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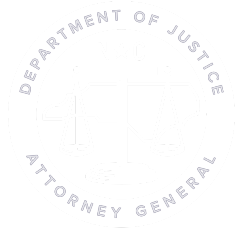
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