

TRACIT supports House introduction of SHOP SAFE Act

Washington, DC, June 13, 2024 - The Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade (TRACIT) applauds Congressman Darrell Issa (R-CA) and Jerrold Nadler (D-NY) for introducing the bipartisan *Stopping Harmful Offers on Platforms by Screening Against Fakes in E-Commerce of 2023 (SHOP SAFE) Act*.

“SHOP SAFE is essential because it will for the first time hold ecommerce platforms liable for facilitating and profiting from the sale of counterfeit and illicit products – if they don’t adhere to a set of prescribed actions including screening third party sellers, disclosing more information about sellers to online shoppers, removing counterfeit and stolen product listings, and barring bad actors from selling on their platforms,” said TRACIT Director-General Jeffrey Hardy.

In the post pandemic escalation in online shopping, which exceeded \$1 trillion in 2022, shady sellers and criminals are exploiting online marketplaces and selling unsafe counterfeit products to consumers. These are substandard products that violate US trademark laws or are manufactured to look like legitimate products without adhering to safety standards, environmental controls or fair labor laws. American consumers are unknowingly buying unsafe products and bringing them into their homes, while funding criminal activity. Illicit products coming from China and Hong Kong accounted for 75% of the value of counterfeited and pirated goods seized by US Customs and Border Patrol in 2021.

“Ecommerce and social platforms like Amazon, Facebook and Instagram are prime hotspots for counterfeiters because they have not taken sufficient steps to secure their infrastructure from sellers who are eager to exploit platform system weaknesses to list unsafe counterfeits and other illicit products,” explains Mr. Hardy. “It is past time for relying on voluntary policies that vary by platform and are inadequately enforced. Now is the time for Congress to pass SHOP SAFE.”

The bill text can be found [here](#).

The TRACIT letter supporting the introduction of SHOP SAFE sent to Reps. Issa, Nadler and other sponsors can be found [here](#).

About TRACIT

The Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade ([TRACIT](#)) is an independent, private sector initiative to mitigate the economic and social damages of illicit trade by strengthening government enforcement mechanisms and mobilizing businesses across industry sectors most impacted by illicit trade.

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