



# Attorney General Doug Peterson

# News Release

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## **Attorney General Peterson Joins Multistate Letter Opposing the Disinformation Governance Board**

*The letter argues that the proposed Disinformation Governance Board will hurt Americans' constitutional freedom to speak freely, debate, and disagree with the government*

Lincoln- Attorney General Peterson submitted a letter today, led by Virginia Attorney General Miyares, to Department of Homeland Security Secretary Mayorkas opposing the Biden Administration's attack on the First Amendment. The creation of a "Disinformation Governance Board" violates the constitutional freedoms that state attorneys general are responsible for defending.

The Attorneys General argue that this government watchdog agency would abridge a citizen's right to express their opinions and disagree with the government, furthering self-censorship rather than protecting freedom of speech. The board's creation is also an example of federal overreach. There is no statutory authority to support its inception – particularly as the public's elected representatives debate the issue of disinformation in Congress.

The letter states that "the Disinformation Governance Board, by its very existence, and almost certainly by design, threatens to "enforce silence" when Americans wish to express views disfavored by the Administration. It is therefore already chilling free speech and impeding the political process in Virginia and every other State. This is unconstitutional, illegal, and un-American. Unless you turn back now and disband this Orwellian Disinformation Governance Board immediately, the undersigned will have no choice but to consider judicial remedies to protect the rights of their citizens."

Attorneys general from Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, and West Virginia joined Attorney General Miyares' letter.

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