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Crane, Nancy T

From: sandy [plenty@bestweb.net]
Sent: Monday, August 19, 2002 11:29 AM
To: Crane, Nancy T; jham@1ahf.com
Subject: Re: ban on vitamins

02-022N
02-022N-442
Sandra J. Trent

----- Original Message -----
From: g c
To: ARB32
Sent: Friday, August 16, 2002 12:48 PM
Subject: ban on vitamins

Hi,
This is it - we are down to the wire here on the supplement issue - **Please** take five minutes to send a letter to make a difference - And if you agree send this to everyone you know.
Thank you,
Gayle
(Can you imagine having to get a prescription for Vitamin C? - that's where this is going if we don't stop it)

ALERT: DEADLINE AUG 22, 2002: HEALTH FREEDOM THREATENED

The Food & Drug Administration is trying to "medicalize" dietary supplements and, thereby, restrict access to them. The FDA has set an August 22 deadline on the comments period regarding their Draft Comments to the UN's Codex Alimentarius Commission's "Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Use." Please help us stop the FDA from circumventing US dietary supplement laws and from setting us up to fall under very restrictive international vitamin standards.

Please send the following comment to: ncrane@cfsan.fda.gov, with copies to your Senators & Congressmen (for email addresses, see www.senate.gov & www.house.gov). John Hammell of International Advocates for Health Freedom (IAHF) asks that you also send him a copy at jham@iahf.com

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To: Beth Yetley, FDA c/o Nancy Crane, FDA
Re: Comment on FDA Draft Proposal to Codex CCNFSDU on Dietary Supplements

Dear Dr.Yetley:

The FDA proposed language, item 5.9, is an obvious attempt to "medicalize" and restrict safe dietary supplements. By recommending that "All labels should bear a statement that a supplement should be taken on an advice of a nutritionist, a dietician, or a medical doctor," the FDA is setting us up to "harmonize" with restrictive international standards and ignoring the fact that in America, supplements are classified as foods and consumers have the right to be educated on their benefits.

I, therefore, insist that you strike the above proposed revision in item 5.9 and replace it with the following language "we recommend the following revision 'All labels should bear scientific structure function health claims similar to those provided for under the American Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994 to directly assist consumers in making positive health decisions for themselves and their families at the point of sale.'" I demand the discontinuance of all attempts to create an international standard for vitamins and minerals at Codex, so that this matter may be left up to national authorities to decide.

Dr.Yetley, the FDA lost the Pearson court decision on First Amendment grounds and was forced to allow health claims on labels pertaining to folic acid and the prevention of neural tube defects. This is as it should be. Americans do not want to be restricted by international standards for vitamins and minerals and we do not want you to continue trying to circumvent US law while you are in Germany representing the USA at Codex meetings. Please do not violate the spirit of DSHEA in an international forum.

I am copying this letter to my Senators and Congressmen and asking them to oppose all efforts to erode US sovereignty via FTAA. We will not tolerate being subjected to anything similar to the EU's attempt to ban consumer access to dietary supplements (Pearson v Thomson, www.emord.com).

Sincerely,
[Your Name and Address]

Sandra J. Trent; 19 Macaulay Rd., Katonah, N.Y. 10536

Despite protests, vitamin consumers in Europe are already in the grip of the EU Vitamin Directive and may be forced to accept a Traditional Medicines Directive, along with an outrageous definition of "medicine" that takes in any product not covered by the Vitamin Directive or Herb Directive (see www.healthfreedommovement.com).

Now there is a renewed effort to harmonize US Dietary Supplement laws to the restrictive international standards of the European Union (EU) and Codex Alimentarius. Senator Durbin just held a hearing in DC in July to attack DSHEA

(www.nap.edu/html/dietary_supplements/NI000760.pdf) and the FDA has hired the National Academy of Science (NAS) to generate a "Safety Framework for Dietary Supplements." This study is ostensibly to evaluate chapparal, saw palmetto, melatonin, glucosamine & shark cartilage, but will likely become an attack piece on dietary supplement safety.

Could the FDA (which is paying NAS to generate the "safety framework") be setting us up to lose in a WTO trade dispute? Yes. Once the FDA defines vitamin safety, they will undermine our ability to defend ourselves in an international court and unfortunately the only people with standing to appear before the international Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) are national reps from WTO member nations, in this case Beth Yetley of FDA, the only person on our Codex delegation to the CCNFSDU with the right to vote or speak at Codex meetings. Private citizens, no matter how well qualified, have no standing to appear before the WTO's DSB. We need to stop this now!

These are my sentiments. I am no longer just concerned about the autonomy of the individual, but also the autonomy of our nation.

Sandra J. Trent

John Hammell
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Sign up for health freedom alerts at www.iahf.com

John Hammell of IAHF will establish reciprocal links with alternative medical or health freedom websites that will link to www.iahf.com.

the above information is available at:

http://www.garynull.com/Article.aspx?article=Issues/Codex/Codex0802.htm

Thank you, Gayle

"Humankind has not woven the web of life. We are but one thread within it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are bound together. All things connect."
-Chief Seattle