

Matten, Ellen

From: Alex Pereira [apereira@aeronet.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 30, 2002 7:07 PM
To: USCodex
Subject: RE: Dietary supplements



02-022N
02-022N-5
Alex Pereira

One of my friends in Holland told me her access to the supplements she was taking to control her cancer has already been shut down. The reason was a directive passed by the European Union's Parliament on March 13, 2002. Health food stores all over Europe have been told that they will be closed down.

The same action is being sought by Big Pharma in the U.S. This is nothing new. It is the culmination of 15 years or so of effort by the pharmaceutical cartels to limit the competition from natural substances.

* I have been using supplements for many years without any adverse effects.

The FDA is apparently trying to "end run" Congress with a bureaucratic directive to "standardize" U.S. controls over food (natural vitamins, minerals, amino acids, and herbs) with United Nations "standards."

This is an obvious power grab by the multi-billion dollar drug company cartel.

Freedom to choose to use safe dietary supplements is an American right. You will not permit it to be taken away by a bureaucratic agency (the FDA) which is obviously influenced by drug company money.

You are aware that large amounts of money are spent by drug companies on campaign contributions to members of Congress and the President to influence actions like this. Political death awaits any of your representatives who allow themselves to be influenced by "Big Pharma" money.

Senator Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) stopped a similar power grab with an amendment to the FDA Reform Bill in November, 1997. He re-marked at the time emphatically, "the bill does not undo the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act (DSHEA) in any way and dietary supplements will remain what they are, food products, not drugs."

Prescription medication is the fourth leading cause of death in the U.S. -- right behind heart disease, cancer and stroke. To date, there are no documented cases of death from taking dietary supplements. Exactly what is the FDA trying to "protect" the American public from?