

March 31, 2003 APR -4 A9 :40
16, 49

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a consumer of natural health products. I appreciate the significance of the Dietary supplement Health and Education Act of 1994 with regard to protecting our right to choose how we care for ourselves.

I am concerned that the FDA has only just begun to implement key sections of DSHEA. For instance, the agency recently released its proposed good manufacturing practices for the industry, and yet is immediately calling for suggestions for increased legislative authority in order to better regulate the supplement industry. Shouldn't it be given a chance to work before calling for new laws?

DSHEA actually increased the FDA's enforcement power. The FDA can seize a dietary supplement if it presents an unreasonable or significant risk of illness or injury. In addition, the government can stop the sale of an entire class of dietary supplements if they pose an imminent public health hazard. I agree with former FDA commissioner, Dr Jane Henney, that DSHEA provides FDA with the necessary legal authority to protect public health.

DSHEA improved consumer access to dietary supplements and information about them, while increasing consumer protection against unsafe products and false and misleading claims. I strongly support DSHEA and do not think any additional legislative authority is necessary for the FDA to regulate ephedra or any other dietary supplement.

Sincerely,

Synthia Suzelis, Pres.

Synthia Suzelis
President
Healthy Treasures, Inc.
40 W. Broad St.
Newton Falls, OH 44444

95N-0304

C 3864