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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fisher's Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD20852

Ladies/Gentlemen:

I am the owner of a dietary supplement company in Phoenix, AZ. I have been involved in the natural products industry for 13 years.

Many other countries are so restrictive that their citizens are denied access to products that have been proven to be helpful in many conditions. Conversely, DSHEA has actually improved customer access to many fine products, while giving the FDA what appears to be sufficient authority to protect consumers against unsafe products or those with false and misleading claims.

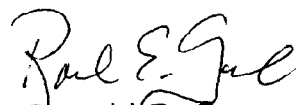
The FDA has only recently started to initiate enforcement measures against ephedra-containing products under DSHEA, but you are already requesting increased authority to regulate the entire nutritional supplement industry. If you are not able to control these ephedra-containing products under full implementation of DSHEA, then I would approve your having more power. Until then, I do not believe that it is in the best interest of supplement consumers or in the best interests of the nutritional supplement industry.

Even the former FDA commissioner, Dr. Jane Kenney, stated before Congress that she believes that DSHEA gives the FDA sufficient legal authority to adequately protect the public health. Presently, I strongly support DSHEA, and I do not believe that any additional legislative authority is necessary.

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Sincerely,


Ronald E. General
President