

Dear

I have learned that a proposal from bureaucrats at Health Canada may limit consumer choice in natural health products. Our Natural Health Products (NHPs) are just that—natural! They are not drugs and shouldn't be regulated the same way as drugs.

Canada is a global leader in the regulation of NHPs. The present review done by Health Canada, and the current licensing system in place today, tells me that the product I'm purchasing has been approved for safety and that evidence was provided to support the claims made. This system has been providing safe and effective supplements for the past 12 years and provides a framework that protects consumers and allows me to make personal health care decisions.

Completely changing the framework from the current regulatory system is trying to fix a system that is not broken and will be a step backwards. This will have an impact on how NHPs are approved, increase the cost of products, reduce the number of products available for sale in Canada, and may not respect the philosophical, cultural diversity, and traditional uses of these products. Small manufacturers will not be able to afford the costly review fees, and during the transition period access to innovative products and to existing products will be limited as manufacturers struggle to cope with the uncertainty caused by this review.

In short, please leave the system that has been in place for 12 years alone.

Thank you. I look forward to your response.

No Postage Required

## HOUSE OF COMMONS OTTAWA, ONTARIO K1A 0A6