



Congratulations! Legislative victory for supplements—Senate cured, House needs another dose.

The U.S. Senate has unanimously passed Senate Bill 784, the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act. Senator Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) recently acknowledged the tremendous contribution of Citizens for Health and other grassroots organizations saying, "There is no question in my mind that the work of this citizen army makes today's victory possible." It is now up to us to bring about enough pressure on the House Energy and Commerce Committee to bring the bill to a vote on the House floor.

The number of letters written to members of the Congress and Senate have outnumbered those received on all other major issues combined. This is a testimonial to the importance of alternative medicine to the American public. We should not stop applying pressure until it is very clear that decisions concerning the health of our children and families are for us to make, not a government agency.

Citizens for Health is asking all supporters to focus their attention on the companion bill H.R. 1709. It is felt this slightly different version of the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act will have an easier time passing the House than the already approved Senate version, S784. It will contain all the essential aspects integral to dietary supplement freedom. These will include but are not limited to:

- Allowing manufacturers to list cautions, quantities, and intake levels on the product label.
- Including herbs, amino acids, and other supplements under the protection of

the Proxmire Act of 1976. The FDA will no longer be able to arbitrarily regulate them as drugs or as food additives.

- Allowing the use of third party scientific literature in connection with the sale of supplements.
- Placing the burden of proving "lack of safety" on the FDA.
- Supplements which receive approval as a drug may still be available as a supplement at safe dosage levels.
- FDA regulatory actions against manufacturers not completed within 60 days can be brought to court.
- Reaffirms the right of manufacturers to describe the supplements' physiological functions.
- Establishing an office within the National Institute of Health (NIH) to promote research on nutritional supplements.

Specific pressure needs to be applied to Democrat Congressmen John Dingell, Chair of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, and Henry Waxman. Despite the overwhelming support of the public, they have resisted this legislation. They must be urged to move the bill out of committee and onto the House floor so that it can be voted on. The American Medical Association is fighting for its life, as more people are turning to alternative therapies, according to the medical journals. It remains to be seen whether Congress will defend freedom or bend to the will of special interests.

In Washington state, FDA raided light and sound ("brain") machine manu-

facturer Synthetic Systems. Synthetics is one of the largest of its kind and had been conscientious in complying to FDA guidelines. Now, in a reversal of innocent until proven guilty, Synthetics will likely have an exhaustive administrative process within the FDA before they can recover their property or seek compensation in a court of law. Because of current regulatory loopholes available to the FDA, it is essentially impossible for alternative practitioners to receive a fair legal hearing once the FDA has brought suit against a company or product.

Sample letters and a packet of further information are available from the Ashland Community Food Store, or contact Citizens for Health: (800) 357-2211 or (206) 922-2457 or fax (206) 922-7583 Monday through Friday, 9:00-4:00.

**Write your
Congresspeople!**



Contact your local reps and the two key members of Congress listed below.

The Honorable Tom Foley, Speaker of the House, H-204, The Capitol, Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard A. Gephardt, Majority Leader of the House, H-148, The Capitol, Washington, DC 20515



JUICE BAR

Fresh Organic Juices • SMART Bar Menu
Unique Gifts • Sound/Light Technology
250 Oak Street #5 in the Oak Street Plaza • 488-2247

**3 BLOCKS
DOWN PIONEER
FROM
SHAKESPEARE**