

Healthy Science™ *by Mannatech*

Dietary Supplement Legislation Would Protect Consumers

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Good news for dietary supplement consumers! On May 24, 2010, U.S. Senators Tom Harkin (Iowa) and Orrin Hatch (Utah) introduced the Dietary Supplement Full Implementation and Enforcement Act of 2010 (DSFIEA) (S.3414), legislation that would ensure that the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act (DSHEA) and other requirements for dietary supplements are fully implemented and enforced. This bill will ensure that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has additional resources over a five-year period to accomplish important regulatory mandates set out by DSHEA, such as:

- Conducting additional inspections to ensure that manufacturing facilities are compliant with current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMPs);
- Calling on FDA to issue clear guidance for new dietary ingredients (NDIs) and the submission of these NDI notifications, as well as the criteria for establishing a reasonable expectation of safety for these ingredients;
- Implementing an annual registration process for supplement manufacturers, packers and distributors;
- Requiring more dialogue between the FDA and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) so that anabolic steroids (or their analogues) do not reach consumers as a mislabeled supplement; and
- Developing appropriate consumer education initiatives that will result in more informed supplement customers.

A Longstanding Need for Full Implementation of DSHEA

The Council for Responsible Nutrition (CRN)* and its member companies have long called for more resources to help the FDA better enforce industry regulations that will reinforce the safety, quality and benefits of supplement products to the public. Mannatech, a member of CRN since 2002, wholeheartedly supports this important legislation and believes that DSHEA enforcement will help protect consumers by removing noncompliant dietary supplement companies from the marketplace. Companies, such as Mannatech, that abide by industry regulations are built to withstand the full enforcement of DSHEA.

Helpful Resources

The Dietary Supplement Full Implementation and Enforcement Act of 2010 is currently being reviewed by the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Senate Committee. To learn more, go to: <http://www.crnusa.org/DSFIEA/>.

And if you need help providing facts to individuals who have concerns that dietary supplements aren't regulated, the CRN has an excellent factsheet: http://www.crnusa.org/pdfs/CRNBackgrounder_DSregulations0610.pdf.

*Council for Responsible Nutrition is the leading U.S. trade association representing dietary supplement manufacturers and ingredient suppliers. CRN members agree to adhere to voluntary guidelines for manufacturing, labeling and marketing and CRN's Code of Ethics.

Note: In April 2009, Dr. Sinnott assumed the position of Vice Chairman of the CRN's Senior Scientific Advisory Council (SSAC), and in September 2009 he assumed the position of Committee Chair.

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