



HEALTH FREEDOM REPORTER

A Publication of the National Health Freedom Coalition
www.nationalhealthfreedom.org

Summer 2007
651.690.0732

World Health Freedom Assembly Launched 2006 Health Freedom Conference a Big Success

History was in the making when National Health Freedom Coalition invited health freedom organizations from around the world to meet face-to-face for the first time as a World Health Freedom Assembly! Meeting at William Mitchell College of Law in St. Paul, Minnesota, USA, the Assembly voted to launch into the future and drafted, with members of the attending Assembly Advisory Organizations, an International Declaration of Health Freedom, which has been endorsed and signed by all attendees and eighteen health freedom organizations from around the world. (See p. 6)

The Assembly and the AdrsoryOrganizations developed a list of current health freedom issues for discussion that were of great concern in their various countries. The Assembly took up one of the issues, and voted to oppose a USA national bill, the "Dietary Supplement and Non-Prescription Drug Consumer Protection Act", com-

monly known as the "AER bill", or the Adverse Events Reporting bill.

The World Health Freedom Assembly has now independently launched and is meeting monthly by conference call to address strategies to strengthen the voice of health freedom globally: how to support and endorse each other's current efforts, and ways to share knowledge and use the power of a unified voice. You can learn more about the Assembly at its website: www.worldhealthfreedomassembly.com.

Evening Events Sparked Vision!

Friday Night Author and Film Festival: The weekend treated all attendees to a Friday evening devoted to a celebration of written and film works on health freedom. Billy Best, Billy Best; The Boy Who Ran Away from Chemotherapy; Byron Richards, Fight for Your Health: Exposing the FDA's Betrayal of Ameri-

ca; and Ingrid Frazon of Sweden represented by Brigitta Holmner, The Yellow Canary inspired us with their stories.

Additionally, we enjoyed films including: "The Udder Truth" produced by Sunshine Health Freedom Founda-

tion, a dramatic/comedy re-enactment of the farmer Herb Saunders investigation and trial; "The Passage of the Minnesota Health Freedom Act of 1999", a documentary film of the passage of the Minnesota health freedom law; and actual footage of Clinton Miller testifying before Congress in the 60's on the Proxmire Vitamin Bill which preserved our right to high dosage vitamins! What a great way to celebrate health freedom after a long day of intense political discus-

2006 Conference continued on page 10



photo by Charles Garril/NHFC

World Health Freedom Assembly launches
September 30, 2006

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NHFC GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES:

2006 Conference Promoting Sponsor

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Healing Insights Therapy Center

Patient's Lab Alliance Network

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NFH Local 104

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Strauss Herb Company



National Health Freedom Coalition

THE VISION

A healthy nation, with empowered people, making informed health care decision.

THE MISSION

To promote access to all health care information, services, treatments and products that the people deem beneficial for their own health and survival; to promote an understanding of the laws and factors impacting the right to access; and to promote the health of the people of this nation.

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ON HEALTH FREEDOM

Comments from Diane Miller

Director of Legal and Public Policy for National Health Freedom Action

NHFA Opposes Mandatory Regulation Of Unlicensed Practitioners

One of the oldest and most important programs that NHFA has is the "State Support Program" to help states pass health freedom legislation that reflects constitutional grounds, and that maximize consumer options in health care. The health freedom safe harbor exemption bills for unlicensed practitioners such as herbalists, homeopaths, traditional naturopaths, energy workers, and many more healers, are one way to do that. As of 2007, there are health freedom exemption bills that do not require government permission before one does a healing act, in the states of Minnesota, Rhode Island, California, Idaho, Louisiana, and Oklahoma. NHFA supports these types of laws, as well as the additional 15 states that have now introduced similar legislation.

NHFA does not support mandatory registration, or requirements of government-endorsed education on unlicensed persons, because there is no basis for a state to have jurisdiction over these practitioners. There are many wonderful healers and health care consultants that have a broad range of services and backgrounds in the healing culture, and laws should maximize consumer access to all of these healers. The health freedom exemption bills exempt unlicensed practitioners from being in violation of criminal laws for practice without a license, they prohibit certain acts that could cause harm, and they require disclosures of education and the fact that a person is not licensed. But they do not require all persons in the culture and all unlicensed practitioners to get permission from the government before they do a healing act.

States have the police power to protect their citizens from harm and thus they have jurisdiction over occupations that pose an imminent risk of harm to the public. However, in many states, the current occupational laws prohibit unlicensed practitioners from doing any act related to healing and they prohibit licensed practitioners from practicing out-

side of their prevailing and accepted standard of care. Health freedom advocates are working in many states to reform occupational laws to allow holistic practitioners, whether licensed professionals such as M.D.s and R.N.s, or unlicensed practitioners such as herbalists, homeopaths, energy healers, and traditional naturopaths, to be able to practice.

The new health freedom safe harbor exemption laws for unlicensed practitioners resonate with constitutional requirements to regulate in the least restrictive manner when a fundamental right is at stake. NHFA holds that states do not have the authority to regulate unlicensed health care practitioners that are not posing a risk of harm to the public. However, this position is being challenged at some state legislatures, with some legislators demanding that all unlicensed practitioners register with the state before they do a healing act. Mandatory registration bills are unacceptable to many health freedom advocates because there is no basis of harm for the state to use its police power to mandate registration.

In 2006-2007 mandatory registration bills were introduced in Ohio and Washington. Health freedom groups mobilized and worked hard to successfully defeat these bills and to introduce their own health freedom safe harbor exemption bills which do not require permission from the government before one does a healing act. NHFA hopes that all of these groups will band together in the future and create a strong presence in each state and pass safe harbor health freedom exemption laws.

States are unique, each having their own culture of healing. Citizens want access to many innovative health care practitioners, whether they are licensed or not licensed, whether they are practicing natural therapies or innovative technologies. It is the challenge of the state health freedom advocates to reform their own state laws to open up access to healing that is beyond conventional medicine.



Diane Miller, JD
Sept. 30,
2006

Fifth Annual NHFC
HEALTH FREEDOM CONFERENCE
United States Health Freedom Assembly and Leadership Training
October 12 – 14, 2007
William Mitchell College of Law

Strengthening the United States Health Freedom Movement

The United States Health Freedom Movement is burgeoning, and issues are abounding. NHFC's Health Freedom Conference is a space where health freedom organizations and individual activists can come together to strategize and find ways to work together, thus multiplying our strength and effectiveness.

United States Health Freedom Assembly

October 12 and 13, 2007

All U.S. state and national health freedom organizations, and U.S. companies and associations working state-wide, nationally, or internationally for health freedom goals, are invited to sit in the Round as voting members of the United States Health Freedom Assembly. The public is invited to attend the conference, witness the leadership discussions and submit draft resolutions.

The Assembly will discuss and make resolutions on key health freedom topics:

1. *Trilateral Charter with Mexico, US, and Canada and it's working group (MUCH)*
2. *Codex.*
3. *State safe harbor exemption bills for unlicensed practitioners and registration issues*
4. *Current U.S .and state bills including S1082/HR1561,HR2117 and others*
5. *Updates on FDA AER implementation and FDA Draft CAM Guidance document*
6. *Discussion on reforming and improving DSHEA*

Friday Night Keynote Speaker: Sandra Duffy, JD

*“Experiences on the Front Lines of the Health Freedom Movement:
What is Working and What is Needed”*

Saturday Night Health Freedom Awards Banquet

NHFC honors health freedom activists for their courageous leadership

Awards Banquet Keynote Speaker: Clinton Miller

Activist Extraordinaire in the American Health Freedom Movement

“Top Priorities for Health Freedom Leadership”

Leadership Training for Health Freedom Advocates

October 14th, 2007

Sunday Workshops:

Deborah Miller, JD, Florida Health Freedom Leader

“Florida Governor Proclamation, Attorney General Opinion, and Florida freedom movement”

Peter McCarthy, Texas Health Freedom President

“Success in building a strong collaborative Texas health freedom movement”

Rickie Gill, NHFC Director of Conference and Development:

“Fundraising for Health Freedom”

Diane Miller, JD: NHFC/NHFA Director of Law and Public Policy

“Drafting Issues with Licensure bills for Dieticians, Naturopaths, and Massage Therapists “

See You All There!

To Register, call 608 295 3827 or go to www.nationalhealthfreedom.org

State Health Freedom What's Happening Around

The "NHFA State Support Program" has been going strong since 1999. NHFA has worked with 35 of the 50 states to help citizens develop strong independent state-based freedom groups that can courageously tackle any health freedom issue that comes their way. We assist groups in clarifying their goals and objectives and the steps needed in order to protect health freedom.

For a list of 35 independent state health freedom organizations that NHFA is in contact with and their contact information please see our website at: www.nationalhealthfreedom.org.

State health freedom groups have profoundly contributed to the strength of the health freedom movement! Nineteen states have introduced legislation to protect consumer access to unlicensed practitioners under safe harbor health freedom exemption laws. Other states are preparing for the future. Six states now protect consumer access to unlicensed health care practitioners, including **Oklahoma, Idaho, Minnesota, Rhode Island, California and Louisiana**

NHFA's Legal and Public Policy Director, Diane Miller, receives information requests every day from state health freedom groups from across the country. She sees these calls as top priority because she knows how hard state leaders are working. NHFA guidance focuses on the importance of relationships. NHFA firmly believes that leaders need to be able to educate our local lawmakers and representatives of the importance of maximum consumer options and the protection of health freedoms. Diane sees relationship with local lawmakers as essential and foundational in order to branch out and educate federal and international representatives effectively. Lawmakers are increasingly influenced by political and financial forces and our personal trusting relationships are increasingly important as we identify our health freedom leaders and champions.

One hundred years ago, many state legislatures made the practice of natural therapies and traditional healing practices a crime, requiring all persons offering to heal the sick to be licensed medical doctors. In addition, they required all medical doctors to practice conventional medicine within their acceptable standards of care. This eliminated innovation and many Americans do not realize laws on the books actually affect what kind of information they can and cannot receive from their practitioners. These laws have resulted in a loss of access to wonderful healing resources and common-sense practices, and their prohibition has sometimes caused harm and even death.

State health freedom organizations are working hard to pass criminal exemption and safe harbor laws to protect consumer access to all health care practitioners. Keeping in place avenues of recourse and truthful information to consumers, these new safe harbor laws protect the rights of natural health practitioners to practice without being arbitrarily disciplined, criminally charged, or civilly fined. Traditional naturopaths, homeopaths, herbalists, energy workers, and many more are now being protected in states that have successfully passed these new types of

laws, and consumer access to these practitioners is being preserved. The new laws help expand the culture and reclaim many healing practices, returning balance back into the realm of health care options. When states change at this core level, it will open minds and hearts and cause a ripple effect, and contribute to the healing of the federal and international situations as well.

The following is a brief update on state groups that have been actively working on legislative issues for health freedom in the past six months:

California: California already has a law (remember famous SB 577!) that protects consumer access to unlicensed practitioners. On Feb 18, 2005 it introduced a bill, SB 583 Cancer Treatment to repeal the terrible law that says that medical doctors can only treat cancer with surgery, radiation, or chemotherapy. Frank Cunny at CA Citizens for Health Freedom is leading the efforts

Colorado: In 2007 Colorado activists were instrumental in successfully opposing a Naturopathic Licensing bill which contained language that would have prohibited unlicensed naturopaths and other natural health practitioners from practicing. Colorado leaders are hopeful that they can introduce and pass health freedom legislation in the future which would solve the problem and exempt them out of licensing statutes that have criminal charges for unlicensed practice. The health freedom bill will have a list of prohibited conduct for unlicensed practitioners and disclosure requirements to clients about education and training and the fact that a practitioner is not licensed by the state. Leadership in Colorado comes from Coalition for Natural Health, Colorado Coalition for Natural Health, Colorado Springs Health Freedom Steering Committee, Sunshine Health Freedom Pathfinders, Colorado Alliance for Health Freedom, and NHFA. Groups are collaborating to build a strong health freedom presence in Colorado and hoping for a successful bill passing in 2008.

Delaware: Delaware has created a new health freedom group called Delaware Health Freedom Committee in response to an almost impossible situation. Activists, with the help of Sunshine Health Freedom Foundation representative Kim Sharples, Coalition for Natural Health and NHFA, have made great strides in protecting health freedom. A Dietician/Nutritionist licensing bill contained language that would have stopped anyone in Delaware from talking about nutrition. Health freedom activists prepared an amendment to exempt persons from criminal charges who were herbalist, retailers, or other persons making recommendations as long as they did not hold themselves out as a licensed Dietitian or Nutritionist. The bill has already passed out of the House and Senate and now it is back in the House and is being heard next week in a House Committee and the freedom activists are hopeful that their amendment will get successfully added to the bill before passage. Great work Delaware!

Freedom Groups: around the Country?

Hawaii: Hawaii introduced health freedom legislation this year to protect access to unlicensed practitioners but the bill did not get a hearing and no action was taken by the legislature. The homeopaths are taking a leading role in Hawaii and are committed to health freedom. Sponsors of the bill are eager to gain more support for the bill.

Illinois: Illinois is just gathering its group together and already they have sent a draft into the capitol for preliminary drafting and are looking forward to building a stronger movement in their state for health freedom.

Iowa: January 2007 show-cased Iowa's Third Annual Health Freedom Day at the capitol. The day kicked off the legislative session and Iowa Health Freedom Coalition went forward and on February 7th introduced a health freedom bill SF 124 exempting unlicensed practitioners from criminal charges of practicing medicine without a license. The bill made great progress in the Subcommittee discussions and activists are encouraged about future passage of a health freedom bill. October 2006 Iowa Health Freedom Coalition held a Health Freedom Expo in Toledo Iowa with wonderful booths and speakers. Iowa has one of the most well-developed grassroots movements in the country for natural health options.

Maine: Maine introduced a safe harbor exemption bill for unlicensed practice this session before we could blink an eye and now they are simultaneously building their group of activists. They have already crossed one of the biggest hurdles which is finding a good Sponsor and getting introduction. Go Maine!

Minnesota Natural Health Legal Reform Project worked to promote a mercury free vaccine bill 2006-2007 session. This group is one of the leaders in mounting a strong legislative campaign to make sure consumers are not receiving mercury in their vaccines without being informed before they receive them. The bill had very good support but a Committee Chair blocked the hearing of the bill. Activists will bring it back again and not stop until consumers are alerted to the levels of mercury in the vaccines they are receiving.

Nevada: Jim Jenks, Sunshine Health Freedom Foundation Pathfinder in Nevada, and NHFA, were instrumental in drafting and finding sponsorship for a safe harbor health freedom exemption bill successfully introduced in Nevada. NHFA also worked to offer health freedom amendments to proponents of a licensing bill for Complementary and Integrative Medicine in order to

make sure that it did not mandate licensure for all unlicensed practitioners. Neither bill made it through the legislature but the latest word is that one of them is being converted to a study bill to study the issues further. Great work in Nevada.

New Hampshire: NH activists, including almost 200 Reiki and bodywork healers, filled a hearing room this spring in New Hampshire to oppose a bill that would have mandated government registration for body workers and healers that use touch modalities in their practices. The bill was supported by the massage therapy community and the controversy came to a head at the capitol. Now activists are exploring the possibility of introducing a safe harbor health freedom exemption bill to provide long term protection of health freedoms in New Hampshire. Thanks to the International Center for Reiki Training for supporting New Hampshire activists and for their leadership role in the grassroots efforts.

New Mexico: New Mexico health freedom leaders initiated the introduction of SB 18 for exempting persons engaged in traditional, cultural, complementary or alternative health care from licensure requirements of NM. The bill passed successfully out of its first Committee but later the discussions expanded and a study bill was introduced and successfully passed to study the issue in the coming year. The freedom activists plan to be part of the discussion of the study committee.

North Carolina: NC re-introduced The Consumer Health Freedom Act in March 2007 and is gathering support from new sources for their bill. Leaders include North Carolina steering committee, Certified Natural Health Practitioners (CNHP), NHFA, Coalition for Natural Health (CNH), and Sunshine Health Freedom Foundation (SHFF) Pathfinder. Activists are also keeping an eye on the language of licensing bills that may negatively impact health freedom.

Ohio Ohio activists had a difficult task this session again because a mandatory registration bill for unlicensed practitioners was re-introduced in Ohio in spring of 2007 and the health freedom activists had to work hard to oppose it and educate legislators about why registration is not an option. In addition leaders are working hard to get a safe harbor exemption health freedom bill introduced in the near future. Health freedom leaders in Ohio are hopeful that all groups will eventually work together to get a health freedom bill passed that is acceptable to everyone.

Texas: Texas had big success this year. They got a health freedom safe harbor exemption bill introduced for the first time. In



Health Freedom Activists David Eisner, Susan Gingrich and Brent Meisse at the Ohio State Capitol in Columbus, Ohio

*World Health Freedom Assembly Passes
International Declaration of Health Freedom*

On September 29th and 30th, 2006, a World Health Freedom Assembly met in St. Paul, Minnesota and adopted and proclaimed an International Declaration of Health Freedom, the full text of which appears below. Following this historic act the assembly called upon all members of the human family, organizations, and countries present, and those others that wish to support this statement, to publicize the text of the Declaration and "to cause it to be honored, implemented, disseminated, displayed, read and endorsed by signature, by all people."

INTERNATIONAL DECLARATION OF HEALTH FREEDOM

We Declare That:

Recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice, and peace in the world.

Among the inalienable rights are not only the right to life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness, but also the right to health, well-being, and survival.

Health is a state of physical, mental, spiritual, and personal social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.

In order to secure the right to health, a human being must be able to exercise his/her fundamental right to privacy and self-determination and the right to make personal choices in pursuit of health, healing, well-being and survival.

The right to choose requires that every individual holds the right to ultimately decide whether to obtain or reject any health treatment, research, or advice.

In order to fully exercise the fundamental right of privacy and self-determination, full access to health care practitioners, healers, researchers, treatments, services, products, devices, substances and information sources of their choice must be protected and preserved for each member of the human family.

Full access to health care practitioners healers, researchers, treatments, services, products, devices, substances and truthful information is an inherent and fundamental right and is independent of the actions of any government or other regulatory public or private bodies.

There exist world-wide diverse healing arts theories, practices, treatments, substances, and modalities that are deemed by the people to contribute to their health and well-being, whether by one human or by many, and they need to be protected and available to all members of the human family.

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Invited Voting Delegates</u>	<u>Nation</u>
Friends of Freedom International *	Peter Helagson	Canada
Live Longer Educational Foundation *	Trueman Tuck	Canada
Mayday *	Tamara Theresa Mosegaard	Denmark_
Kommittén för Alternativ Medicin *	Birgitta Holmner	Sweden
Citizens for Health *	Jim Turner	USA
Healthkeepers Alliance *	Wendell Whitman	USA
National Health Federation *	Scott Tips	USA
National Health Freedom Action *	Clinton Miller	USA
Sunshine Health Freedom Foundation *	Joan Vandergriff	USA
Native Americans *	Mark Ravenhair	USA
Alliance for Health Freedom Australia	Michael Bending	Australia
Natural Health Care Alliance	Patricia Reed	Australia
Salud Natural A.G.	Ronald Modra	Chile
La Leva Assoc. for Freedom of Choice	Sepp Hasselberger	Italy
New Health	David Sloan	New Zealand
Alliance for Natural Health	Rob Verkerk	UK
American Association for Health Freedom	Brenna Hill	USA
National Health Freedom Coalition *	Assembly Co-Chair Diane Miller	USA
National Health Freedom Coalition *	Assembly Co-Chair Karen Studders	USA

() The World Health Freedom Assembly met in St. Paul, Minnesota, USA at the William Mitchell College of Law.*

Eleven of the signing organizations attended in person () and nine organizations are signing via courier. A motion was made to launch an ongoing Assembly and founders are now formalizing the Assembly and meeting monthly by conferencing.*



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Helping Citizens Advocate for Health Freedom

The phone rings and the caller asks, "How can NHFC and NHFA help them in their state?" I reply with another question, "What do you need?" - and the conversation begins!

First and foremost, National Health Freedom Coalition (NHFC) educates people on just what health freedom is. And National Health Freedom Action (NHFA) is an action organization that lobbies for solutions that protect health freedom. In so large a movement, there are many versions of the term 'health freedom.' NHFC articulates what the term "healthfreedom" means, in relation to state practitioner laws, federal product laws, and international health freedom issues.

For example, practitioners may be being prosecuted for the practice of medicine or the practice of dietetics without a license. In that case, we educate the consumer as to why it might be happening, give the history of the problem, and provide suggested solutions, including model language for health freedom bills, or help mobilize and organize a grass-roots effort to change the law. Our organizations support the right of all unlicensed practitioners to provide healing and healthcare services that do not pose an imminent risk of harm to the public. We also oppose legislation or laws that mandate that an unlicensed practitioner register with the state government before they practice their trade.

Another example is when licensed practitioners are being disciplined for using holistic treatments considered outside of prevailing conventional standards. We help by discussing what the laws are in that state, sharing how some states have changed their laws, providing language models, and once again helping states learn how to organize and mobilize

a grass-roots effort to make change. We support licensed practitioners who practice holistic medicine, and have crafted model laws to ensure their ability to do so.

Federal issues come up when either a consumer calls because they have lost access to a particular product, or a manufacturer calls because there is pending federal legislation that may make it impossible for them to manufacture and distribute the product. NHFA and NHFC support the right of manufacturers to make truthful health claims. In these cases, NHFA reviews legislation and puts out action alerts opposing (and sometimes supporting) federal legislation. We give consumers information and suggestions on how to take action to protect their freedom.

Consumer questions about international issues are becoming more frequent as international trade agreements and border disputes disrupt access to important nutritional products consumers need. For example, a New Zealand 2005 study reported that 62% of New Zealand citizens use complementary health care products. Yet Australia is attempting to harmonize restrictive Australian product laws with New Zealand's more liberal laws. And New Zealand health freedom advocates are working hard to oppose this assault on New Zealand citizens' health freedom and sovereignty. NHFC and NHFA are founding members of the World Health Freedom Assembly, launched in 2006

in the United States, that is now holding monthly meetings to help strengthen the health freedom movement worldwide. NHFC holds an annual conference, teaching leadership skills to health freedom advocates, and hosting the annual health freedom awards banquet. NHFC and NHFA testify at hearings, provide Power Point presentations on health freedom issues, and meet with health freedom groups to teach organizational and lobbying skills. Our work is on behalf of all people seeking their individual paths to wellness. Our goal is to make sure the way is clear and that there are no obstructions to a person's personal journey to heal.



Terry Rogers
President of
Florida Health
Freedom Coalition
and

Jerri Johnson
President
National Health
Freedom Coalition

Photo by Charles Gorril/NHFC

Protecting DSHEA

Top Priority

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA), regulates dietary supplements as food under DSHEA (Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994). The foundational principle of DSHEA is that dietary supplements are considered food nutrients, generally regarded as safe, and before the government can restrict commercial products, the government has the burden of proof to show harm: "...that they present a significant or unreasonable risk of illness or injury under— (i) conditions of use recommended or suggested in labeling, or (ii) if no conditions of use are suggested or recommended in the labeling, under ordinary conditions of use." (21 U.S.C. 342).

#1 S 1082/HR 1561 Must be amended!

S1082/H.R. 1561 impacts health freedom. It sets up a non-profit corporation called the Reagan-Udall Foundation that would give the FDA a new and expanded role to be part of a Foundation with the purpose of implementing goals of the FDA in the area of new drug development. This means that the same organization that will be developing drug evaluation technology is also enmeshed in the agency that regulates the drug approval process, thus creating a situation that could potentially reduce the safety of the drugs and products made available to the public.

In addition to being focused on drug assessment technology development, the Senate added language to the bill which included food safety. The addition of amendments that include food safety, and the language of the original bill that included food and dietary supplements in the purpose of the Reagan Udall non-profit, are completely unacceptable to freedom advocates because it could mean down the road that foods, dietary ingredients and dietary supplements would be at risk for being treated like drugs when evaluated by the FDA with their new drug tools.

Foods and dietary supplements in the U.S. are not currently regulated as drugs, but are regulated as foods under DSHEA. Notably because of this, they are evaluated differently. Foods and dietary supplements are considered food

nutrients generally regarded as safe and the evaluation of their safety is based on whether they cause a significant risk of harm, as opposed to being evaluated under the toxic drug risk/benefit assessment. Risk/benefit analysis is reserved for toxic substances and the FDA approves drugs for market if the benefit justifies the risk. These foundational differences of drug and food safety assessments have recently been challenged in the Ephedra cases and because the Supreme Court has denied hearing the Ephedra case May 2007, there is a real possibility that drug assessments might be applied to foods in the future.

With a drug, a consumer has to decide whether they are open to being harmed by a toxic substance in trade for getting a measured benefit. And the drug companies must show a risk/benefit analysis and disclose side effects. But that is not the nature of food. Food is not generally toxic. Benefit of food should always be the consumer's opinion and the government should only block foods from the market if they have shown harm. Because of the assumption that food is safe, we have a wide variety of foods and supplements in the marketplace. If foods and dietary supplements were ever to be evaluated as drugs, with technology developed for drugs and a risk/benefit analysis, it would no longer be up to the consumer to decide whether a food or dietary supplement were risky or beneficial to them. The FDA would be deciding that before they would be allowing them on the market. We then run the risk of natural products being incorrectly assessed as harmful because of a drug analysis being applied to them and losing access to many wonderful foods and nutrients that we currently use.

Foods and dietary supplements should continue to be treated as food (DSHEA) and evaluated under food standards and technology instead of with toxic drug risk/benefit assessment tools. To accomplish this, an amendment must be added to the current bill S1082/H.R.1561. The following amendments are being recommended and drafted by the law firm of Emord and Associates in Washington DC:

Proposed amendment to S 1082 and HR 1561:

"The bills are hereby amended to prohibit the Foundation or Institute from evaluating the health benefit or efficacy of foods, dietary ingredients, and dietary

supplements and to limit review of foods, dietary ingredients and dietary supplements to a determination of whether they are safe. In assessing whether dietary ingredients and dietary supplements are safe, the Foundation or Institute shall not compare product risks with health benefits or efficacy. Instead, the Foundation or Institute shall determine whether the product presents a significant risk of illness or injury under conditions of use recommended or suggested in labeling, or if no conditions of use are recommended or suggested in labeling, under ordinary conditions of use."

#2 H.R. 2117 is a great freedom bill!

H.R. 2117 assures that citizens get maximum truthful information about the products they desire to use to improve their own health. Congressman Ron Paul introduced H.R. 2117, the Health Freedom Protection Act, which in Congressman Ron Paul's words, "stops the FDA from censoring truthful claims about the curative, mitigative, or preventative effects of dietary supplements, and adopts the federal court's suggested use of disclaimers as an alternative to censorship. The Health Freedom Protection Act also stops the FDA from prohibiting the distribution of scientific articles and publications regarding the role of nutrients in protecting against disease.

This legislation also addresses the FTC's violations of the First Amendment. Under traditional First Amendment jurisprudence, the federal government bears the burden of proving an advertising statement false before censoring that statement. However, the FTC has reversed the standard in the case of dietary supplements by requiring supplement manufacturers to satisfy an unobtainable standard of proof that their statement is true. The FTC's standards are blocking innovation in the marketplace.

The Health Freedom Protection Act requires the government bear the burden of proving that speech could be censored. This is how it should be in a free, dynamic society. The bill also requires that the FTC warn parties that their advertising is false and give them a chance to correct their mistakes..." (Congressman Ron Paul's statement upon introduction May 2, 2007).

**HEALTH FREEDOM
EXPO**

Chicago, IL

June 22 -24, 2007

Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel and Convention Center

www.healthkeepers.org

Dr. Joseph Mercola (founder of both the #1 ranked website Mercola.com and the Chicago area’s Optimal Wellness Center)

Kevin Trudeau (“Natural Cures” author)

Daryl Hannah as she tells you what you can do to change your world, starting today!

NHFC/NHFA WISH LIST

You can help NHFC and NHFA by donating needed items:

Power Point Projector

Laptop Computer

Copier

Fax Machine

Frequent Flyer Miles

Thanks!

Support the Health Freedom Work of NHFC AND NHFA!

NHFC, a 501(c)3 educational organization, and NHFA, a 501(c)4 lobbying organization, welcome your monthly pledge, a single donation, or membership or renewal – whatever you can help with. Your yearly membership of \$35 or more entitles you to receive our joint newsletter, Health Freedom Reporter. Complete the following form and join us today!

- I WISH TO MAKE A MONTHLY PLEDGE/DONATION OF \$ _____ TO **NHFC’S**
DR. CLARK RESEARCH ASSOCIATION MATCHING GRANT.
- I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A ONE TIME DONATION OF \$ _____ TO **NHFC.**
- I WOULD LIKE A \$35.00 PORTION OF MY GIFT TO INCLUDE a one-year membership in **NHFC.**
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2006 Conference continued from Page 1
 sions! Additionally, we enjoyed films including: "The Udder Truth" produced by Sunshine Health Freedom Foundation, a dramatic/comedy re-enactment of the farmer Herb Saunders investigation and trial; "The Passage of the Minnesota Health Freedom Act of 1999", a documentary film of the passage of the Minnesota health freedom law; and actual footage of Clinton Miller testifying before Congress in the 60's on the Proxmore Vitamin Bill which preserved our right to high dosage vitamins! What a great way to celebrate health freedom after a long day of intense political discussions!

Saturday Night Awards Banquet And Keynote Speaker

Four amazing health freedom leaders were presented 2006 Health Freedom Awards, honored for their dedication and hard work protecting our access to natural health care options. Awardees were: **Billy Best** – Author and courageous cancer survivor who fled from home as a minor child to avoid forced chemotherapy and later experienced his remedies being stopped at the U.S. Canadian border; **Jonathon W. Emord JD** – A

U.S. constitutional lawyer successfully defending our rights to dietary supplements and freedom of speech for health claims; **Anthony Stephans**, co-founder of Truehope Nutritional Support, for his courage and success in the face of opposition from Health Canada; and **Scott Tips JD** – Counsel for Na-

tional Health Federation, providing continuous leadership and attendance at international Codex meetings, with NHF United Nations Observer Status representing health freedom.

Attorney Jonathon Emord of Emord & Associates, Washington D.C., delivered a riveting keynote address. Emord kept the audience mesmerized with his presentation on the founders of our country, the history of the FDA, and his work as a trial lawyer defending



Photo by Charles Gorril/NHFC
 Joan Vandergriff signing International Declaration of Health Freedom on behalf of Sunshine Health Freedom Foundation, USA

his clients' constitutional rights from the overreaching arm of FDA's enforcement policies.

Leadership Training for Health Freedom Activists

On Sunday, following the two-day World Health Freedom Assembly, health freedom leaders joined together to participate in a leadership training day. Presentations and interactive workshops stimulated much enthusiasm and support for those leaders who face the daunting task of crafting and passing laws that reflect health freedom.

As the National Conference for Health Freedom Advocates came to a close, health freedom was placed in the hands of brilliant committed activists for yet another year of work and success in protecting the right of all members of the human family to make their own health care choices in their own ways.

NHFC invites you to attend its Fifth Annual National Conference for Health Freedom Advocates, to be held on October 12 – 14, 2007, in St. Paul, MN. (See p 5). Come join us in the exciting and rewarding work for our health freedom!

Activists Work to Eliminate Mercury in Vaccines

By Nancy Hokkanen

For years, concern has grown that mercury in vaccines has created an epidemic of neurological disorders in children. More than 4,800 parents filed claims on behalf of their children in the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program. On Monday, June 11 the United States Court of Federal Claims will hold its first hearing of the thousands of cases pending in the Autism Omnibus Proceedings.

The proceedings of the three-judge panel of Special Masters, unprecedented in the history of tort litigation, have been described as a "test" case. However the Cedillo case is not necessarily representative of any other case, and the decision will not be binding on any other case. The hearings are expected to continue into 2008 and beyond.

To view the **public documen-**

tary record of the Omnibus Autism Proceeding: <http://www.uscfc.uscourts.gov/OSM/OSMAutism.htm>

For parents of children with vaccine-induced autism, the word "Simpsonwood" has a corrupt notoriety similar to the word "Watergate." On June 6-7, 2007 parent activists held a rally at Georgia's Simpsonwood retreat center, site of an infamous June 2000 meeting of vaccine stakeholders discussing the link between autism and mercury from the vaccine sterilizer Thimerosal.

A statistical analysis presented at that meeting by scientist Thomas Verstraeten of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control revealed that children given Thimerosal in vaccines had a higher incidence of autism, tics and other neurodevelopmental disorders. Ultimately the group of stakeholders decided to downplay the significance, and eventually Verstraeten reworked his statistics to show no association. Outquotes from the 2000 Simpsonwood meeting minutes can be found here and elsewhere.

<http://www.nomercury.org/science/documents/simpsonwood%20overview.pdf>

In recent years eight states have passed legislation to limit the amount of mercury allowed in vaccines, and nineteen other states have introduced similar bills. But perversely the very organizations charged with protecting children's health have been encouraging mercury use in injectable vaccines. For example, Hawaii's bill was vetoed by Governor Lingle after pressure from the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the CDC has refused to bow to requests to recommend that pregnant women and children receive mercury-free flu vaccines.

State bills to limit mercury in vaccines have been necessary because passing a federal bill has proved problematic. But advocates say these bills are necessary because vaccines in development are allowed to use Thimerosal. The recently approved pandemic influenza vaccine contains 100 micrograms of mercury in its two doses – far over levels considered safe in drinking water by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

More information on state bills to limit mercury in vaccines is at the website of the parent advocacy group A-CHAMP.

<http://www.a-champ.org/state.html>

Legislative Oversight Demanded On Trilateral Cooperation Charter With U.S. Mexico, and Canada

International Executive Branch programs are now in a position to negatively impact health freedoms and health freedom advocates are asking for legislative oversight of the Trilateral Cooperation Charter between U.S. Mexico, and Canada. The Security and Prosperity Partnership, an initiative of the Executive Branch of government, and the resulting Trilateral Cooperation Charter with Mexico, Canada, and the U.S., has a working group on health fraud. But the Charter has no legislative oversight to protect health freedoms of U.S. citizens.

The purpose of the Trilateral Cooperation Charter working group entitled **Mexico-US-Canada Health Fraud Group (MUCH)** is to maintain a formal framework for cooperation in combating health fraud and to identify appropriate lines of communication to ensure a continual exchange of information on compliance and enforcement activities among the three countries. (Lead Country: Mexico). The working group plans to "...develop and implement comprehensive collaborative approaches and mechanisms to deal with health fraud." And health fraud is defined as "...the false, deceptive, or misleading promotion, advertisement, distribution, sale, possession for sale, or offering for sale of products or provision of services, intended for human use, that are represented as being safe and/or effective to diagnose, prevent, cure, treat, or mitigate disease (or other conditions), to rehabilitate patients or to provide a beneficial effect on health." However, notably, the U.S. is represented in the Trilateral Cooperation Charter by the FDA. The FDA is notorious for opposing the foundational principles of health freedom in DSHEA. And Mexico and Canada have no dietary supplement laws like the U.S. where all dietary supplements are considered food and generally regarded as safe. For example Canada is suffering from the loss of a huge percentage of their small businesses in the natural products industry that have had to close business because of new restrictive laws requiring costly pre-market procedures and government

approvals. Health freedom advocates are asking for legislative oversight of the Trilateral Cooperation Charter working group in order to assess whether natural health products and dietary supplements will be restricted or blocked by the efforts of this Executive branch group.

At DAMS, We Publish the Dental Truth

By Leo Cashman

At DAMS (Dental Amalgam Mercury Syndrome), we give honest answers to people who suspect that conventional dentistry is not telling them the whole truth. How can it be that amalgam fillings, once removed from your teeth, are a hazardous waste material too dangerous for regular landfill but are somehow safe during all those years that they are in your mouth?

Amalgams are admittedly half mercury, and constantly giving off mercury vapor. Mercury is the most poisonous metal and fluoride is the most poisonous non-metal that we are commonly exposed to. It is bizarre that the medical/dental system delivers so much of these poisons into the trusting patient's body.

We are here to tell that patient what she/he won't otherwise know. The dental-health connection goes further than just toxic dental materials. A root canal treatment is an inherently risky procedure. The root canal treated teeth are dead, and thus, quite prone to infection. 25% of them become extremely toxic, loaded up with anaerobic bacteria and their toxic wastes. These wastes will combine with any mercury present in the mouth and produce organic mercury compounds that are even more toxic.

Such toxic teeth usually fuel another problem: jawbone infection, or jawbone disease, with the resulting holes in the jawbone commonly called "cavitations." Such diseased tissue often goes undetected and undiagnosed, but it is now known to be associated not only with pain, but also with neurological disorders, auto-immune diseases, and cancer. So it is strange that Dr. Wesley Shankland, DDS, a foremost practitioner in the diagnosis and treatment of cavitations, has been shut down by a zealous Ohio Dental Board investigator - despite the absence of patient complaints. With mounting

evidence of bias and corruption in the board's action, the Governor of Ohio has asked the state's Inspector General to investigate the board's conduct. The battle for freedom and truth wages on.

Leo Cashman is Executive Director for DAMS. To request the DAMS Information Guide and a list of knowledgeable dentists in your state, call 800-311-6265.

State Groups continued

in addition they were instrumental in defeating a Dietitian licensing bill which would have negatively impacted a person's right to talk about nutrition unless they were a licensed Dietitian. But a hard thing that is still happening in Texas is that a bill relating to massage therapy passed the House and the Senate and is on its way to the Governor, and it contains language that will make it illegal for anyone to provide health care services that involve touch, if they are not a licensed massage therapist. This will harm the practices of all body workers, kinesiologists, healing touch and Reiki, and many others. Activists are working hard to get the Governor to veto the bill as we speak.

Washington: Health freedom in WA is under major attack. At least seven licensed and unlicensed practitioners that provide alternative health care have been investigated. In response to the investigation activists have formed organizations with the goal of changing the laws. One new group, Health Freedom Washington (HFW), has a goal specifically to protect unlicensed practitioners. The group successfully introduced safe harbor exemption bills in both Senate and House SB 6034/HB 2266 this session, but because they did not launch until late in session, the bills did not move out of Committee. HFW does not support mandatory registration of unlicensed practitioners and worked hard to oppose a mandatory registration bill for unlicensed practitioners that was introduced by another group. HFW is hopeful that they can proceed in the coming year with health freedom legislation. In addition, Washington Choice introduced a bill to protect licensed practitioners. The bill reforms laws regarding the investigation and discipline of licensed doctors. The bill moved but did not get completely passed this session.

2007 Conference and US Health Freedom Assembly

Strengthening the United States Health Freedom Movement

October 12-14, 2007, will be a big weekend in St. Paul, Minnesota! The United States Health Freedom Movement is burgeoning, and issues are abounding. NHFC's Health Freedom Conference is a place where health freedom organizations and individual activists come together to strategize and find ways to work together, thus multiplying our strength and effectiveness.

You are invited! All U.S. state and national health freedom organizations, and U.S. companies and associations working state-wide, nationally, or internationally for health freedom goals, are invited to sit in the Round as voting members of the United States Health Freedom Assembly. The public is also invited to attend the Assembly and conference, witness the leadership discussions, and submit draft resolutions.

On Friday and Saturday the Assembly will discuss and make resolutions on key health freedom topics including: *the Trilateral Charter with Mexico, US, and Canada and its working group (MUCH); Co-dex; State safe harbor exemption bills for unlicensed practitioners and registration issues; current U.S .and state bills including S1082/HR1561,HR2117 and other bills; updates on FDA AER implementation and FDA Draft CAM Guidance document; and discussion on reforming and improving DSHEA.* On Sunday training workshops will take place for health freedom advocates working on the ground to protect freedoms.

Clinton Miller, Activist Extraordinaire in the American Health Freedom Movement, is Saturday Night's Awards Banquet Keynote Speaker is. Friday Night's Keynote Speaker is **Sandra Duffy, JD**, Oregon attorney working on top priority health freedom cases around the country.

Come one, come all! And join us to strengthen the U.S. health freedom movement!

To register call 608-295-3827, or go to www.nationalhealthfreedom.org to register on-line.

A Conference and Assembly put on by National Health Freedom Coalition



National Health Freedom Coalition
PMD 218, 2136 Ford Parkway
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