

NATURAL HEALTH PRODUCTS ARE UNDER THREAT

You need to read this and ACT NOW

The government is trying to decimate the Natural health Industry by giving control to the controversial Australian TGA. To lodge your protest and support the NZHT in fighting this proposal please complete the form below and send to us now.

We will use these forms to show the MP's that the TGA (Therapeutic Goods Agency) proposal does not have our support and that we do want a sensible alternative as set out below. Some companies in the industry are in favour of the TGA proposal - these expressions of support are designed to show that those companies do not speak for us all. Your personal details are needed to show the MP's that the concerns are those of a genuine person or organisation.

For more information see overleaf OR go to www.nzht.co.nz and select "Urgent Support"

I OPPOSE the proposed joint Trans Tasman agency to regulate therapeutic products and medical devices.

I SUPPORT a new NZ regulator, where Natural Health Products are recognised as a separate category from both pharmaceutical drugs and foods, providing risk based controls following the unanimous recommendations of Parliament's Health Select Committee's first Report, which include the following;

- NZ based regulation of Natural Health Products. Regulated as a stand alone entity.
- Mutual Recognition with Australia instead of harmonization.
- Risk based system of regulation.
- Based around a simple product listing system.
- Based on a negative list of products (that means defining the products that may not be used rather than limiting the products that can be used).
- Includes Good Manufacturing Practice requirements.
- Sensible labelling laws.
- Allows for innovation and justifiable claims.
- Includes clear monitoring and enforcement rules along with random testing to ensure compliance.

This form can also be filled in and submitted on the website – go to www.nzht.co.nz and click on "Urgent Support"

 Please send completed form to: **NZ HEALTH TRUST, PO Box 34 057, Christchurch 8030 or Fax +64 3 3517993**

Your Name: * _____ Organisation: _____
Address: * _____ Suburb: _____
City: * _____ Country: * _____
Phone: * _____ Fax: _____
Email: * _____ * denotes required fields

Please tick as many as apply below but at least one box *

- Consumer Manufacturer Retailer Practitioner
 Importer of products Importer of ingredients Exporter of products Exporter of ingredients
 Supplier/sponsor of products Other – please specify:

Approximate turnover pa - Industry only (Very helpful but not required)

- 0 - 20K 0k - 50k 50k - 100k 100k - 250k 250k - 500k 500k - 1m
 1m - 2m 2m - 5m 5m - 10m 10m - 20m 20m +

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Yes, I am opposed to the Government's TGA proposal but support a new NZ Regulator based on the unanimous recommendations of Parliament's Health Select Committee's first Report.

*The New Zealand Health Trust will use these forms as set out above and will keep them on file for this purpose.
You may withdraw a support form you have sent to us at any time by verified notice in writing.*

PO Box 34057 Christchurch NZ Ph +64 3 3519807 Fx +64 3 3517993 E info@nzht.co.nz W www.nzht.co.nz

More information about the purpose and use of these support forms.

The New Zealand Health Trust has been arguing against the proposed joint Trans Tasman Therapeutic Goods Agency since the idea was first put out by Medsafe.

Over that time we have become aware that there are many others who, like us, are very concerned at the effect this proposal would have on the natural health and medical devices industries in New Zealand.

We are often at Parliament, speaking with the MP's and officials and talking to media representatives showing them why we oppose this plan and so far we have been very successful in ensuring the Government cannot muster the votes it needs to turn its proposal into law.

One of the questions we are always asked is who we are speaking on behalf of. We know from talking to many of you that you agree with the position we have taken but unless we can demonstrate this to the MP's we face an enormous battle to convince them how widespread the opposition is.

These support forms are designed to give you a voice without you having to go to Wellington yourself and tell the MP of your concerns and wishes.

Rather than create an industry body and get caught up in the time and administration that that involves to get a majority decision on any issue – we have chosen to simply ask those who support us on this issue to say so in writing by using our support forms and then we can copy these and show them to the MP's and other interested parties (such as the media) to prove that the Ministers' few friends in this industry do not speak for us all.

If we do not speak up and show how many of us oppose the TGA proposal then the few large companies who are working with the Minister of Health will succeed in wrongly claiming that they represent "75% of this industry" as they have been doing.

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 **NZ Health Trust**

Dave Sloan

PO Box 34 057, Christchurch 8030

Phone: 03 3519807 Fax: 03 3517993 Email: info@nzht.co.nz Web: www.nzht.co.nz

Join the NZHT newsletter to be kept up to date – go to website to subscribe.

This form can also be filled in and submitted on the NZHT website where you can also print copies of this form or order pre-printed forms in bulk for distribution to friends & colleagues.

Please feel free to photocopy this form for distribution.

Go to www.nzht.co.nz