New Zealand First on Therapeutic Products and Medicines Bill

New Zealand First has arrived at the following conclusions in relation to the Therapeutic Products and Medicines Bill, given the submissions to the Select Committee and the current support for the Bill in parliament.

- 1. We support a trans-Tasman regulatory agency for pharmaceuticals.
- We support a trans-Tasman regulatory agency for medical devices (with some consideration of a New Zealand only standard for those seeking only to operate in the domestic market).
- We support a trans-Tasman regulatory agency for those within the complementary products industry who wish to opt into such an agency.
- 4. We recommend the establishment of a domestic regulatory regime for those within the complementary products industry who seek only to operate within the New Zealand market and who do not want to opt in to a joint agency.
- We recommend that the option to shift from the domestic regime into the joint agency for those within the complementary products industry be left open.
- We recommend that the current Treaty and associated legislation be amended to reflect points 3-5.

We believe that there would be overwhelming political support within parliament for this alternative, given that the numbers do not exist within parliament for the present Bill.

New Zealand First wants this issue resolved once and for all and believe that the above is a satisfactory compromise which will address the political and industry concerns of most of those involved in this matter.