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Urgent – Press Release – For Immediate Release

November 26, 2005
Belleville – Ontario

First Crack In Big Pharma’s Wall - (Ottawa, November 22, 2005)

Ottawa –A huge step forward for informed freedom of choice and health freedom has been achieved thanks to last minute scurrying by Health Canada to avoid the full impact of Private Member’s Bill C-420. The Bill has been a dagger aimed at the heart of the health regulator’s bureaucracy for the last two Parliaments.

The House of Commons Standing Committee on Health passed a Liberal motion November 22, 2005, to effectively kill Bill C-420 with support from the NDP and Bloc Quebecois (7). Only the Conservative Party voted against the motion (4).

New regulations proposed by Health Canada would exempt Natural Health Products from provisions in the Food and Drugs Act that act as an outright prohibition on fact-based, truthful health claims. If the regulations become law, it would be legal to advertise both the prevention and treatment (but not the cure) of the 40 or so diseases listed on Schedule A (heart disease, arthritis, cancer etc.) of the Food and Drugs Act with food-based medicines.

For decades the national regulator has used Schedule A and Sections 3.1 and 3.2 of the Food and Drugs Act to intimidate, criminalize and bankrupt small companies who have been achieving incredible therapeutic results treating Schedule A diseases with food-based medicines (Dietary Food Supplements).

Bill C-420 sought to strike down the unlawful censorship created in 1934 by repealing sections 3.1 and 3.2 of the Food & Drug Act. Introduced in the current parliament by Dr. Colin Carrie (CPC Oshawa) the bill was originally introduced in the previous parliament by Dr. James Lunney (CPC Nanaimo-Alberni).

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The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing
Author: Edmond Burke

First they came for the Communists, and I didn’t speak up, because I wasn’t a Communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn’t speak up, because I wasn’t a Jew. Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn’t speak up, because I wasn’t a Catholic. Then they came for me, and by that time there was no one left to speak up for me – **Author: Lutheran pastor Martin Niemoller Germany 1945**

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The Alliance of Natural Health Suppliers (ANHS), Freedom of Choice in Health Care and Friends of Freedom and hundreds of small and medium family enterprises (SMFE's), Have been for years actively supporting the "little bill that could" force Health Canada "recognize the overwhelming body of evidence" that food-based medicines [Dietary Supplements] effectively prevent, treat and even in some cases cure many chronic diseases.

"We aren't out of the woods yet though," cautions Peter Helgason, vice-president of regulatory affairs for ANHS, and FCHC. "Let's see how the Gazette process goes, and more importantly let's see what Health Canada is up to with Schedule F" (products available by prescription only). Hundreds of food-based medicine manufacturers have received warning letters and stop sale orders recently claiming the natural products they have been selling for years or decades contain "prescription drugs", or more ominously their "precursors". And are now illegal for sale in Canada.

"Anyone who has been paying attention for the past 10 years or so knows the power brokers at Health Canada have been less than enthusiastic about recognizing the many benefits of natural health products. In fact it seems the recently created Natural Health Directorate has been constantly undermined by the Drug Directorate since its inception", says Helgason. "We'll take what we have for now", he says, "But we have to keep up the public pressure and we have to keep the disinfecting light shining into the dark corners of what the recently fired Health Canada whistle-blower Dr. Chiv Chopra describes in his new book as a bureaucracy that is "Corrupt to the Core".

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