

HARVESTING HEALTH

FTC, FDA, IRS, the U.S. Postal Service and the U.S. Attorney for Southern Florida helped put a hard-headed marketing scammer in jail for 20 years. He was warned before by a Federal court. This case proves that dietary supplements are regulated.

FDA has forced the recall of dietary supplements by several sellers in recent months. Muscle products containing steroids are reported in this issue. The recalls prove that dietary supplements are regulated.

NML has reported numerous times that FDA has used U.S. Marshalls to seize dietary supplement products from sellers who violated the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. These seizures prove that dietary supplements are regulated.

Likewise, *NML* has reported that FTC often seeks fines against sellers of dietary supplements for defrauding consumers. These fines prove that dietary supplements are regulated.

Activity that is not regulated is that of the U.S. Congress, when it passes law after law requiring FDA or some other Federal agency to do something, while failing to provide the money to do the work.

Last year dietary supplements lost NIH's support for an annual bibliography for research on dietary supplements.

This year the President's Budget for FY 2011 does not mention any increase in funding for dietary supplement programs.

Now Senator John McCain wants to amend the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act and he does not mention giving FDA or other agencies any money to implement the new amendments, if they are passed.

Funding necessary government programs is harder to do when most of the Federal money is dedicated to entitlement programs. Of course, Congress is incapable of distinguishing the difference between necessary programs and entitlement programs. This is what needs regulating.

The United States government would have adequate money to do what is necessary, if the members of Congress would stop passing spending bills to benefit their own states or districts to get themselves re-elected 98 percent of the time. Once upon a time this was regulated by common sense and decency. But no longer!

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