

# PLEASE COSPONSOR RESOLUTION ON CODEX

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
United States House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Representative \_\_\_\_\_ :

**Please support the concurrent resolution on Codex requiring persons representing the US at Codex to advocate for positions that reflect the intent of US law forbidding upper limits on vitamins and minerals.** I am concerned that international standards on Vitamins and Minerals being developed and adopted by the CODEX Alimentarius Commission may soon force US manufacturers doing international trade to abide by them. Due to the clear intent of Congress forbidding the setting of upper limits of vitamins and minerals, delegates representing the US at global forums should advocate for solutions that reflect the intent of US laws. They have not been doing this. I urge your help to make sure that Congress gives clear directives to persons representing the US in global forums, particularly Codex. As you may recall, Codex was created in 1963 by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) as a Food Standards Program to protect the health of consumers and to insure fair food-trade practices.

Congress has already acted in concert with the American people in developing fair and appropriate regulations to insure the safety of foods and dietary supplements. These laws reflect important protections for consumer access to products. People from all around the world, including a majority of Americans, use dietary supplements. Americans do not want our government to support or adopt more restrictive guidelines for international trade of US dietary supplement products. Restrictive guidelines are instead being promoted by countries with more restrictive laws. These countries have a history of aggressive promotion of their positions in CODEX meetings.

Even more critically, US representatives (scientists from FDA and USDA, not trade experts or diplomats) sitting at global forums, have not vigorously advocated for international trade policies and standards in line with existing US laws on dietary supplements, remaining silent or participating in the promotion of policies that are more restrictive than existing US laws. And Congress has not given clear directives to persons seated at global negotiating tables. **Congress needs to act immediately to direct US representatives to speak out before implementation of the Codex Guidelines for Vitamin and Mineral Food Supplements.** The Codex Committee working to implement the guidelines is currently working on setting upper limits on vitamins and minerals for products being traded internationally. This is in direct conflict with the clear intent of the 1976 Proxmire Amendment and the US Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act (DSHEA) of 1994 forbidding the FDA to take any action to limit the potency and combination of all dietary supplements, vitamin, and mineral food supplements at safe levels.

I respectfully urge you to support legislation that will soon be introduced to provide a directive to insure US government delegates support the intent of US law when negotiating at international forums and to insure that US law is never superseded by CODEX guidelines. Thank you.

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Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

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