

Dear Sir/Madam,

This proposed Therapeutic Goods Amendment legislation is my concern

The premise behind the legislation is wrong and these draconian regs are not warranted

The fines proposed are excessive and the appeal mechanism flawed

I take locally and overseas produced supplements and have better health and want my choices to stay as they are

This bill is a pre cursor to the Trans Tasman legislation that will re constitute the TGA not in favour of Australians but against it

If implemented its another step along a programmed path to have our sovereign ability to determine what is best for us as Australians vanish as the new independent Company to be set up will be under direct influence and control of Pharmaceutical Company controlled agencies eg WHO,WTO etc. The real of purpose of this legislation and the Trans Tasman New body(to be created in July 2006) is to get the sovereign control Australia has vis TGA(which will not exist if new body formed)out of our control and then we are at the whim of powerful pharmaceutical lobby groups who vis Codex and other measures want control over the supplements industry to restrict the quantity and daily dosage(massive increase to consumer costs).As you know they can't patent natural substances but 65%+ odd Australians use these now and its increasing

So pure maths tells you where their agenda lies in this 'Trojan horse' ploy which is very smart when you think about it as the new structure will enable who ever is in power politically to say "out of our hands as we are member of WTO and have to comply with their directive"

That's then if this Trans -Tasman gets up next year

But you know in advance what the motive is

I'm not the boy crying wolf here

I like many of the Aussies I speak too, who are incensed that their right to choose is going to be taken away from them under guise of "we know what's best and safest for you"

Well Vioxx and the fact that even the USA now acknowledges that the medical profession is the second biggest killer of people(from miss diagnosis. complications from Drugs Coy products etc) behind cancer and heart attacks

So those that supposedly know best aren't doing a good job and people here in Australia are dying or having serious life long health challenges as a result

Yet so little is done about it? Why when a pharmaceutical drug -Travelcalm- which killed no one in Australia led to biggest recall ever in world of natural products (nothing to do with Travelcalm) and why wouldn't the TGA allow testing on all the recalled natural products instead of immediately destroying them. Why wouldn't they want to know what was wrong with each of those 2000 odd products they recalled so they could take action to prove their case. Not the behaviour of a regulator with the best interests of Australians>At least it should have been able to table real scientific evidence to the Parliament as to the veracity of its claim that all those recalled products were potentially harmful to Australians-an elementary procedure one would expect unless there was or is another motive

Yet Vioxx which they knew killed thousands(over 140,000 in USA and Australians locally) was given a class 2 softly softly recall. I mean blind Freddy can see there is seriously something very bad going on and the hand of big Pharmaceutical interests is all over this and the TGA backing of the proposed Trans-Tas deal .Look at the board of TGA and where they worked previously, who really funds TGA and you'll see big pharmaceutical interests. Drug Companies only make a dollar out of people being ill whereas supplements are designed to keep you well -big difference. Funny how natural products can't be patented and therefore Drug Coys can't make billions off their "R&D" yet 67%od Aussies take natural products WHY? Because they work and you don't get the side effects as from Pharmaceutical Drugs

And with Aging population surely the Government wants healthy Aussies not those going to Doctors getting drug scripts and costing all taxpayers plenty via subsidised medicine (PBS)whereas all of us buy our supplements with our own after tax dollars

Go figure

IF you thought about all this and dug a little deeper you'll see that this "Trojan Horse" -seeming innocent Amendment Bill of today will cause untold misery to people who rely on supplements and will cost Australians via PBS and other direct/indirect costs millions in the years to come. Not to mention lost jobs and tax revenue as the Natural/Complimentary industry is decimated in Australia. Ask yourself who really benefits here. How many people have died from Natural products VS Drug Coys?

When reviewing this legislation ask what's the real Agenda downstream and when the legislation piggybacks on to the Trans Tasman one next year who this new body is answerable to now and in future ,what influence of WTO WHO now

& in future ....it will be in the fine print so have a qualified bill reader look at it when it comes into parliament

I appreciate I am a minor voice in all this but all my friends who take supplements are unaware of what's proposed by legislation like this and how it will effect them and their loved ones for years to come just as it will me and mine and you and yours and for us all and our choices for our health please make the right choice not a choices based on the influences of big business interests who want to make billions and billions of dollars over next 20/30 years and they are using influence way beyond what they should be, appearing to be acting in the broader community interests but that's not the case

If you feel I am off track then give all facts -both sides -to the media for all Australians to see and then you will find that so many who are unaware of how their rights of choice will be taken away will react - after all every politician and public servant is responsible to each Aussie voter -so lets have accountability before we all get railroaded again by international power groups who have proven time and again that they are smarter than we Aussies -this time I hope I am wrong about it but the worldwide trend via Codex and other actions tells me I am not

One day your family and friends and rest of Australia will thank you

Look at end of the day your Joe Citizen like me,sre you have power buy with it goes responsibility and long after you've left your current position you will return to average daily Aussie life and h3ealth will be an issue for you and when you become ill down the track you'll reflect on your decision here ion this legislation

Because you will be able yo get the necessary supplements you need and want. at a dosage level you can afford or you won't be able to get them

Either way you can reflect back on your decision today or how it impacted not only the lives of ALL Australians but also yours

So please stand tall, review the obvious and non obvious hidden agenda for control by money interests of our health choices not better health choices even though they will give all the reasons why this statement is not so. Why do they need 1200 lobbyists on Capitol in USA to represent the Pharmaceutical interests? What could all those people possibly have to do?. Pressure decisions based on "support" for the sitting member?.....most favourable tax write offs for their R&D?.. well if it wasn't my health at stake I'd say that's how the game is played but my health is my birthright ,my choice and not to be played with for a dollar

Thanks for reading and as father of 6,professional person I have never written on other issues but this one is serious as its repercussions will last my lifetime and that of my family and friends so I thought time to get out of the 'comfort zone' and put pen to paper and express my view

Stay Well

Peter Webb