

Dear _____,

In recent months, I've observed a groundswell of communication within my networks. Canadians are communicating with their MPs by sending emails, letters, and postcards. These messages convey deep concerns regarding Health Canada's new regulatory approach to Natural Health Products (NHPs), which poses a risk to the sector and to the many Canadians who depend on NHPs for their health and wellness.

I am reaching out today to request your backing for a Private Member's Bill, called Bill C-368. This Bill aims to repeal sections 500-504 of The Budget Implementation Act, 2023, No.1 (previously known as Bill C-47), which came into effect in June of 2023.

Health Canada's proposed changes within sections 500-504 of Bill C-47 include introducing significant new fees, stringent evidence requirements, restrictions on label claims, and limitations on the information that can be disseminated about NHPs. Moreover, these changes inappropriately extend Vanessa's Law to NHPs, which is expected to have a severe negative impact on the natural health industry in Canada.

The implications of these recent regulatory changes to NHPs are dire: potential closure of NHP manufacturers and distributors, challenges for natural health retailers due to unfair competition with lower-priced NHPs in the United States, limitations on natural health practitioners due to a reduction in products on the market, and for consumers, diminished access to NHPs, escalated costs, and a restriction to their freedom of choice.

The actions undertaken by Health Canada present a substantial issue for Canadians like me. Some individuals rely on NHPs for survival and others for maintaining a quality of life while managing serious health conditions. Limiting access to these products is irresponsible and poses significant risks. Even if the only consequence of these regulatory changes is product price increases, it still serves to put NHPs out of reach for even more Canadians, who will simply be unable to afford them.

I urge you to prioritize the welfare of the constituents you represent by supporting Bill C-368. This request transcends political affiliations and calls for a vote based on conscience, representing the interests of the people in addressing this critical issue. Your support is crucial in safeguarding the fundamental rights and freedoms of every Canadian to make informed decisions about their health and what they choose to put into their bodies.

For more details on the effects of sections 500-504 of Bill C-47, a Discussion Paper is available from the Natural Health Product Protection Association (NHPPA) at nhppa.org/discussion-paper-health-canada-initiatives/

I expect you to represent me by supporting Bill C-368 as it progresses through the committee process and into Third Reading. Please confirm your support for Bill C-368.

With utmost respect,

Signed

Dated