ANDY BIGGS
5TH DISTRICT, ARIZONA

HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

1626 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
(202) 225-2635

COMMITTEE ON
SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515–0305

March 8, 2018

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
2358-A Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sanford Bishop
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
2358-A Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Aderholt and Ranking Member Bishop:

As you begin work drafting the fiscal year (FY) 2019 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, I urge you to prevent any funding from being utilized by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to finalize, implement, or otherwise enforce the draft guidance issued in December 2017 titled "Drug Products Labeled as Homeopathic: Guidance for FDA Staff and Industry."

Instead of appreciating the homeopathic industry's long and nearly flawless record of producing safe products, it seems that the FDA has decided that it would rather impose unnecessary new regulations on these consumer goods. While the FDA claims that most new homeopathic remedies will not be affected by new rulemaking, and that new potential regulations will only focus on those products "that have the greatest potential to cause risk to patients," it is unclear how expansively the agency intends to carry out this guidance. Section III of the draft guidance only briefly outlines and offers few details about the new categories of homeopathic remedies that could be subject to further regulation.

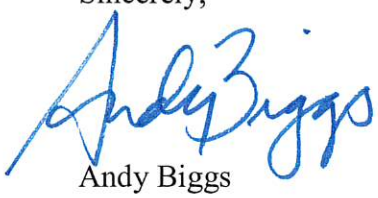
Consumers clearly want homeopathic products, and many of the individuals who decide to purchase them are already well aware that they are an alternative to conventional medicine and cannot be evaluated on the same terms. Unnecessary new regulations will only serve to hinder consumer choice and place potentially costly new burdens on the homeopathic industry.

Accordingly, I suggest that language similar to the following be incorporated into the FY 2019 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act:

None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to finalize, implement, or otherwise enforce the draft guidance issued by the Food and Drug Administration in December 2017 titled "Drug Products Labeled as Homeopathic: Guidance for FDA Staff and Industry"

I thank you for your consideration of this request and for your leadership on the committee.

Sincerely,



Andy Biggs
Member of Congress