



January 23, 2015

Letter to the Editor

Statesman Journal
280 Church Street Northeast
Salem, OR 97301
Submitted via email to: letters@statesmanjournal.com

Dear Editor:

Your article ("[The truth about dietary supplements](#)," *Statesman Journal*, Jan. 22) inaccurately states, "The supplement industry is largely unregulated." In reality, supplements are highly regulated by an extensive framework of laws implemented and enforced by FDA and other federal agencies. [FDA's website](#) clearly states, "FDA regulates both finished dietary supplement products and dietary ingredients."

The Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act (DSHEA), in combination with other laws and regulations, provides comprehensive federal oversight of the well-regulated supplement industry. These regulations require supplement companies to register their facilities with the FDA. Companies must also comply with FDA's [current good manufacturing practice](#) (cGMP) requirements for dietary supplements, which is a much more stringent standard than for conventional foods. Both FDA and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) have authority over product claims and advertising for dietary supplements. In addition, supplement companies must submit to FDA any serious adverse events reported in regard to any of their dietary supplement products -- the same system used for over-the-counter drugs.

Sincerely,

Michael McGuffin
President
American Herbal Product Association (AHPA)