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NEWS RELEASE

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Vaping Crisis Will Happen with CBD if USG Doesn't Act NPA Urges Senate to Include House Approach to CBD Regulation Millions More Americans use CBD than Vape

WASHINGTON, DC – As the Centers for Disease Control continues its investigation into vaping-related illnesses and deaths, The Natural Products Association (NPA) is warning Congress that another public health crisis is inevitable if the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) fails to regulate the growing cannabidiol (CBD) market.

With the exception of [Epidiolex](#), **all** CBD products in the U.S. are technically considered illegal and are not currently subject to any safety, purity, or scientific standards set by the federal government, yet the product is readily available for purchase. Despite CBD's illegal status, the industry grew by nearly 40% in 2017, reaching \$367 Million in sales. A recent Gallup Poll found that 1 in 7 adults use CBD, compared to less than [1 percent](#) of adults who vape daily.

“The tragic vaping crisis makes fatally clear that FDA inaction has life and death consequences,” said Daniel Fabricant, Ph.D. President and CEO of NPA. “The number of people vaping in the U.S. is miniscule compared to the number of Americans who use some sort of CBD, or what they think is CBD, on a daily basis. The problem is no one has any idea what is in these products, where they come from or whether they contain deadly ingredients or additives. And no one knows how much CBD is healthy and at what consumption levels. That is why it is imperative for Congress to direct FDA to immediately begin its oversight and regulation of CBD products. If President Trump, Congress and the FDA ignore this ticking time bomb, they will all be responsible for another public health crisis. Policymakers should not only address vaping but also establish a well-regulated marketplace for CBD, otherwise we'll be back here in a few weeks or months talking about a death tolls from another unregulated product.”

NPA, which has called for CBD regulation for the past nine months, worked with Congressman McNerney (D-CA-9) to include a provision in the FY2020 House Agriculture Appropriations bill that would lead to FDA regulation based on sound scientific standards that have been adopted by the World Health Organization (WHO). The provision also appropriates \$100,000 for the FDA to perform a Health Hazard Evaluation (HHE) and set a safe level of CBD for consumers to use each day. The process would follow the same precedent as red yeast rice, which allows a natural product to contain a level of a naturally occurring active pharmaceutical ingredient that the FDA has determined to be safe. The Senate Agriculture Appropriations committee is scheduled to consider the legislation on Tuesday, September 16.

“Vaping may be the shiny new object in Washington, but the CBD crisis could be a thousand times worse unless the government gets ahead of it,” said Fabricant.

Recent NPA Actions on CBD:



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- NPA is leading a [grassroots campaign](#) urging the Senate to act.
- Led a legislative effort to secure language in the FY 2020 House Agriculture Appropriations bill to appropriate \$100,000 for the FDA to perform an HHE.
- On May 31, 2019, NPA testified at the FDA's first public hearing on CBD.
- On March 14, 2019, NPA submitted [official comments](#) to the FDA concerning approaches to CBD regulation that will also help facilitate the discussion.
- On October 24, 2018, NPA sent a [letter](#) to FDA asking for regulatory leadership on CBD products.

Schedule a Television or Print Interview

To schedule an interview with Dr. Fabricant immediately, please contact Justin Bartolomeo at 202-400-0480 or jbartolomeo@hdmk.org

Daniel Fabricant, Ph.D. is leading expert in the Field of dietary supplement use and regulation. Dr. Fabricant has more than a decade of regulatory, legislative and scientific experience in the natural products industry. Prior to being named President and CEO of NPA, the nation's largest and oldest trade organization representing the natural products industry, Dr. Fabricant directed agency policy, public affairs and regulatory action regarding regulation of the dietary supplement industry for more than three years at the FDA. While with the agency, he successfully navigated the large, heavily-matrixed governmental organizational structure to bring life to a regulatory function that was non-existent for almost 20 years. Before his time at the FDA, Dr. Fabricant was vice president, global government and scientific affairs, for NPA, responsible for establishing and leading industry coalitions dealing with a range of issues. Dr. Fabricant is internationally recognized for his regulatory and governmental public health expertise and natural products research.

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Natural Products Association

The **Natural Products Association (NPA)** is *the* trade association representing the entire natural products industry. We advocate for our members who supply, manufacture and sell natural ingredients or products for consumers. The Natural Products Association promotes good manufacturing practices as part of the growth and success of the industry. Founded in 1936, NPA represents over 1,000 members accounting for more than 10,000 locations of retailers, manufacturers, wholesalers and distributors of natural products, including foods, dietary supplements, and health/beauty aids. Visit www.npanational.org