



440 1st St, N.W. , Ste. 520, Washington, D.C. 20001  
(202) 223-0101, Fax (202) 223-0250  
NPAinfo.org

## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
January 15, 2019

Contact: Justin Bartolomeo  
202-789-4365  
[jbartolomeo@hdmk.org](mailto:jbartolomeo@hdmk.org)

# **New FDA Proposal to Share U.S. Companies' Data with Foreign Governments Lacks Transparency, Out of Step with Trump Admin Goals to Streamline Regulations**

WASHINGTON, DC – A new proposal by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to share data collected from U.S. companies with foreign governments lacks transparency and is out of step with the Trump Administration's goals to streamline regulations, the Natural Products Association said in comments submitted today.

The request for comment outlined by the FDA would require companies to provide information related to administrative actions including warning letters and inspection outcomes. The FDA is proposing to use the data to create a list of U.S. companies in compliance with federal regulations and share it with foreign governments who are importing products from U.S. companies. Much of this information is already collected by the FDA.

NPA questioned FDA's authority to provide an "eligibility screening service" for foreign governments and requested the release of documents and requests submitted to the Agency from each foreign government. It is unclear what criteria FDA is using to determine eligibility.

Under the Bioterrorism Act of 2002, companies must submit their name and facility address to FDA, but FDA refuses to share this information under Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. This is the same information that will be shared with foreign governments.

"At a time when FDA is being asked to do more with less, dumb rules like this are just busy work that sap money from important priorities," said Daniel Fabricant, Ph.D. President and CEO of NPA. "U.S. companies have a right to know how their information is being shared with foreign governments. Furthermore, the FDA's proposal requires companies to re-submit information the Agency should already have in its possession. We are concerned the lack of transparency and redundancy in the FDA's proposal is out of step with the Trump Administration's commitment to streamlining regulations to make them more efficient for consumers and small businesses."

NPA's full comments can be viewed [here](#).

**Natural Products Association**



440 1st St, N.W. , Ste. 520, Washington, D.C. 20001

(202) 223-0101, Fax (202) 223-0250

[NPAinfo.org](http://NPAinfo.org)

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 approximately 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.

###