

Tax-Free Better Form Letter – vitamins and dietary supplements

Date:

[Name of Congressional Representative/Senator]

Street Name

City, State (Zip Code)

Subject: Support HR 4794, the Dietary Supplements Access Act, to Make vitamins and other dietary supplements FSA and HSA eligible

Dear [Insert Name of Congressperson],

I am writing to voice my support for House bill HR 4794, The Dietary Supplements Access Act, that addresses the health of millions of American healthcare consumers: making vitamins and other dietary supplements eligible for the 70+ million Americans with flexible spending accounts (FSAs) and health savings accounts (HSAs).

As an [FSA/HSA] holder trying to use every measure available to keep myself and my family healthy, my pre-tax account dollars are more important to my financial and physical well-being than ever. Not being able to purchase the products my family needs, such as multivitamins and dietary supplements, is hindering my own and my fellow American's ability to have greater access to the products we need to stay healthy.

IRS 213(d) currently defines qualified medical care as “amounts paid for the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease, or for the purpose of affecting any structure or function of the body” According to The Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994, a statement for a dietary supplement may be made if the statement “describes the role of a nutrient or dietary ingredient intended to affect the structure of function in humans”, very closely matching the IRS' current definition of qualified medical care.

Another issue is the IRS's narrow view on what constitutes medical “prevention” and allowing products that support one's good health to qualify as preventive expenses to improve long-term care outcomes. As long as the definition remains narrow, it will remain difficult for American healthcare consumers to get access to the types of products they need.

We are asking you to help make this important change happen by asking the IRS to make vitamins and dietary supplements FSA/HSA eligible in all cases without the need to see a doctor first, however you can. Whether it be through a phone call to the IRS or through legislative action like the Dietary Supplements Access Act, 70 million+ Americans are counting on you to help solve this important issue.

I encourage you and your fellow members to consider this critical consumer healthcare issue in the hopes that more Americans can utilize their tax-advantaged healthcare dollars to manage their health and control the high cost of healthcare.

Respectfully,

[Insert Name]