



AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

# LEGISLATIVE ALERT

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By James Larsen

## Support Increasing Health Care Options

Americans for Tax Reform urges Congress to pass the Dietary Supplement Tax Fairness Act, H. R. 2627, championed by Congressman Dan Burton (R-IN). This legislation provides a step toward much-needed health care reform by putting the choice of medical care into the hands of patients. It allows individuals to treat foods for special dietary use, dietary supplements, and medical foods as medical expenses for tax purposes.

Putting these very personal decisions into the hands of the patient and giving them the opportunity to determine for themselves what type of health care they feel comfortable with is sound medical and economic policy. Consumer driven health care is a valuable reform tool that helps push down the cost of health care.

Increasing the options available to consumers maximizes the benefits that consumer driven health care vehicles (such as Health Savings Accounts) can provide. They give consumers and patients more options when selecting their source of health care. As a result, competition is fostered, prices are driven down and the consumer wins.

As the United States continues to search for viable and innovative methods for increasing the cost-effectiveness of health care, putting the choice in the hands of patients through consumer driven health care offers the most choice for the lowest cost. **Americans for Tax Reform supports the Dietary Supplement Tax Fairness Act.**