

January 10, 2006

Nutritional Health Alliance
P.O. Box 649
Melville, New York 11747-9806

To Whom It May Concern,

We are contacting you to express our outrage at the launch of your recent flyer campaign against supplement regulation which brands Sikh, Arab and Muslim Americans as terrorists or terrorist sympathizers.

The flyer depicts United States Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL) wearing a turban with the title, "Get a Turban for Durbin!" and the subtitle, "Keep Congressional Terrorism at Bay." We are outraged that the Nutritional Health Alliance (NHA) would be engaged in the production of such a racist flyer that serves to perpetuate an increased environment of prejudice and hate against the Sikh, Muslim and Arab American communities.

The turban is a mandatory article of faith for the Sikh community. Adherents of the Sikh faith are required by their religion to keep uncut hair and cover their head with a turban. Additionally, many Muslims and Arabs wear turbans for cultural reasons. The turban is a sign of respect, dignity and humility and must not be associated with terrorism or terrorist activity.

The depiction of the turban as a terrorist symbol, or individuals who wear turbans as terrorists, as your flyer explicitly shows, is baseless and reprehensible. While we are aware of legitimate political differences in the debate on supplement regulation, the flyer produced by the NHA transgresses the boundaries of both legitimate and civil political discourse. The flyer serves as nothing more than hatemongering and uses stereotypes to support its point of view.

We urge you to remove the flyer from any further distribution immediately. We further ask that a public apology be made and posted on your website. Legitimate public debate must not be tainted with images that continue to create a dangerous environment of xenophobia and hate crimes for innocent Sikh, Muslim, Arab and South Asian Americans.

This letter has been endorsed by the following organizations:

National Organizations

- 1) American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC)
- 2) American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)
- 3) Arab American Institute (AAI)
- 4) Alliance for Global Justice
- 5) American Immigration Lawyers Association
- 6) American Humanist Association

- 7) American Liberty and Freedom for All (ALAFFA)
- 8) American Muslim Voice
- 9) Arab American Family Support Center
- 10) Arab American Forum
- 11) Arab American Support Network
- 12) Art for Action
- 13) Asian American Justice Center (AAJC)
- 14) Catholics for a Free Choice
- 15) Center for Understanding Islam
- 16) City University of New York School of Law Immigrant Initiatives
- 17) Coalition Against Injustice
- 18) Coalition for Asian American Children and Families
- 19) Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR)
- 20) Committee Against Hate Media Steering Committee (CAHM Steering)
- 21) Episcopal Migration Ministries
- 22) Freedom House
- 23) Florence Immigrant & Refugee Rights Project
- 24) Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society
- 25) Japanese American Citizen's League
- 26) Korean Resource Center (KRC)
- 27) Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
- 28) Leadership Conference for Civil Rights (LCCR)
- 29) Legal Momentum
- 30) Making the Road by Walking
- 31) Media Action Network for Asian Americans
- 32) Muslim American Public Affairs Council
- 33) National Association of Muslim American Women
- 34) National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA)
- 35) National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum
- 36) National Council for Jewish women
- 37) National Council of La Raza
- 38) National Immigration Forum
- 39) National Immigration Project
- 40) National Korean American Service & Education Consortium (NAKASEC)
- 41) National Network for Arab American Communities
- 42) North American South Asian Bar Association (NASABA)
- 43) Organization of Chinese Americans
- 44) PRIME – Ecumenical Committee to Refugees
- 45) Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law
- 46) Service Employees International Union (SEIU)
- 47) Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund (SALDEF)
- 48) South Asian American Leaders of Tomorrow
- 49) The Applied Research Center
- 50) The Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS)
- 51) The Interfaith Alliance (TIA)
- 52) Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations
- 53) U.S. Campaign to end the Israeli Occupation
- 54) Voter's Speak Up
- 55) Wing Luke Asian Museum
- 56) World Sikh Council –America Region
- 57) YKASEC - Empowering the Korean American Community

- 58) Youth Leadership Support Network
- 59) Young Women's Christian Association– United States (YWCA-US)

State/Local Organizations

- 60) American Civil Liberties Union – North Carolina Chapter
- 61) American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee – New Jersey Chapter
- 62) American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee – New York Chapter
- 63) American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee – New Orleans Chapter
- 64) American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee – Washington D.C Chapter
- 65) American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee – Wisconsin Chapter
- 66) Arab American Association of New York
- 67) Arab American Community Coalition – Washington
- 68) Asian Counseling and Referral Service – Washington
- 69) Asian Law Caucus, CA
- 70) Asian Pacific Directors Coalition of Seattle – Washington
- 71) Asian Pacific Islander Women and Family Safety Center – WA- Washington
- 72) Bay Area Sikhs, CA
- 73) Bethlehem Association – Southern California Chapter
- 74) Center for Asian American Advocacy, California
- 75) Chicago Commission on Human Relations Advisory Council on Arab Affairs
- 76) Chinese Information and Service Center - Washington
- 77) Council on American-Islamic Relations – Chicago Chapter
- 78) El Pueblo Inc – North Carolina
- 79) Hate Free Zone Washington
- 80) Helping Link - Washington
- 81) Hispanic Coalition Corp - Florida
- 82) Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights
- 83) Interfaith Freedom Foundation – California
- 84) Irish Immigration Center – New England
- 85) Korean American Resource and Cultural Center
- 86) Law Office of Theresa Sandhu
- 87) Maryland Arab American Committee
- 88) Media Action Network for Asian Americans
- 89) Michigan State Representative Steve Tobocman (12th District, Southwest Detroit)
- 90) Muslim American Society of Arizona
- 91) Muslim Students Association at Possiac County Community College – New Jersey
- 92) Neighborhood House - Washington
- 93) New Orleans Palestine Solidarity
- 94) New York Coalition for Immigrants' Right to Drivers' Licenses.
- 95) New York Immigration Coalition –New York
- 96) North Carolina Justice Center
- 97) Organization of Chinese Americans - Greater Seattle Chapter
- 98) Rockland Immigration Coalition – NY– New York
- 99) Sikh Educational and Charitable Trust, CA
- 100) Sukkar, Arevalo, and Associates - Florida
- 101) The Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington (IFC)
- 102) Washington Asia Pacific Islander Families Against Substance Abuse - Washington