

American Chinese Medicine Association President Comments on Ephedra Ban

Editorial Staff | DIGITAL EXCLUSIVE

Acupuncture Today has received the following letter from Dr. Bob Xu, president of the [American Chinese Medicine Association](#), regarding the FDA's ruling on ephedra and pinellia, and other pending legislation. Included in the letter are links to two other documents -- a "[Letter to the entire Chinese medicine community](#)" and a "[Letter to the Congress](#)." Both letters are available in Microsoft Word format for review. Dr. Xu asked that his letter and the accompanying letters be published at our earliest convenience, so that they could reach as wide an audience as possible.

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Dear Editor:

Recently, many things are happening relating to Chinese medicine, such as the FDA's final rule banning the use of any product that contains *ma huang* (herba ephedrae) and *ban xia* (rhizoma pinelliae), U.S. House Bill H.R. 435, and U.S. Senate Bill S.R. 260. From *fang ji* and *mu tong* to aristolochic acid, and from *ma huang*, ephedrine alkaloids to *ban xia*, the integrity of Chinese medicine (CM) has been encroached piece by piece, step by step. Chinese medicine has been continuously attacked unreasonably from different angles, one after another.

Reviewing the pathway of Chinese medicine in the United States, we realize that there are deeper root causes behind these events. These root causes are very urgent issues to the entire Chinese Medicine community.

To call attention to these urgent issues, and to get them resolved quickly in order to protect the integrity of Chinese medicine, we have prepared a "Letter to the Entire Chinese Medicine Community" and a "Letter to the Congress." Attached please find the two letters. It might help the profession of Chinese medicine if the two letters could be published at your magazine to reach as many readers as possible. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bob Xu, CMD, MS
President, American Chinese Medicine Association (ACMA)