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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Big Pharma Backed Organization Attempts Takeover of Independent Nutrition Group

Membership files class action lawsuit to halt proceedings.

December 2, 2010 (Washington, DC) — The American Society for Nutrition (ASN), the largest society of nutrition researchers in the US, that openly receives support from pharmaceutical companies, genetic engineering and pesticide giant Monsanto, food processor ConAgra and junk food suppliers and producers Coca-Cola, Mars, Kraft, and McDonald's, recently attempted a takeover of a competing independent organization, the American College of Nutrition (ACN).

“We knew something was amiss when the board of the independent group, ACN, voted to merge with the junk food supported ASN. ACN is a membership organization; the board can not merge with a competing group without a say from its members,” said Gretchen DuBeau executive and legal director of ANH-USA.

On Friday, November 19th, a judge ordered both organizations to stop all further action on the merger pending a hearing scheduled for late December. Knowing that their case is weak, the big industry backed ASN is in talks with ACN to settle and avoid a public courtroom.

“Promoting sustainable health and freedom of choice in healthcare through good science and good law”

Veteran healthcare/health freedom attorney Rick Jaffe is representing the plaintiff class (ACN), assisted by local Delaware counsel Jessica Zeldin.

“This attempted merger of ACN, an independent 51-year-old organization, by a pharmaceutical and junk food backed group demonstrates how vital it is to protect science-based nutrition research that is independent from the influences of Big Pharma and Big Food,” said DuBeau.

“If you need an example of the nutrition advice ANS provides, look no further than their failed ‘Smart Choices’ food labeling system, designed and paid for by the nation’s major food manufacturers,” said DuBeau. ANS allowed their “Smart Choices” seal of approval on boxes of sugar-laden, artificially colored and partially hydrogenated Froot Loops™ and Fudgsicle bars. It was only after public outcry, media investigation and FDA questioning did ANS drop the program.

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About the Alliance for Natural Health USA (ANH-USA)

www.anh-usa.org

The Alliance for Natural Health USA is part of an international organization dedicated to promoting natural, sustainable healthcare through good science and good law. We protect the right of natural health practitioners to practice, and the right of consumers to choose the healthcare options and treatment modalities they prefer, including complementary and alternative medicine. As a membership-based organization, we unite consumers, practitioners, and industry to speak with a common voice and have worked since 1992 to shift the medical paradigm from an exclusive focus on surgery, drugs and other conventional techniques to an “integrative” approach incorporating food, dietary supplements and lifestyle changes.

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