




**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY  
Washington, D.C. 20503**

April 10, 2000

NOTE TO ALFONSO ROBLES, CHIEF COUNSEL, USCS

FROM: ED JURITH, GENERAL COUNSEL 

SUBJECT: Importation of "Hemp" Products

"Hemp" products are not subject to a specific definition, but generally come from the same *Cannabis sativa* plant as does marijuana. Historically, "hemp" products were not considered for human consumption and, therefore, not a threat. Recently, "hemp" oil, seeds and flour are being touted for human consumption and "hemp-hype" has become a "stalking horse" for the marijuana movement.

Allowing the importation and sale of such "hemp" products in the U.S. threatens the viability of our Federal drug testing system and supports a movement to grow *Cannabis sativa* in this country. From a drug policy perspective, such a result is unacceptable. Accordingly, our office would propose an interpretation of the plain language of Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act for your consideration. A memorandum supporting our interpretation is attached.

Would appreciate your thoughts. Please feel free to call me at (202) 395-6709 or my Deputy, Dave Shull, at (202) 395-6650.

Attachment