

REGULAR CALENDAR

October 24, 2022

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

**The Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs to
which was referred HB 65,**

**AN ACT requiring food service establishments to
establish food allergy awareness procedures. Having
considered the same, report the same: NOT
RECOMMENDED FOR FUTURE LEGISLATION.**

Rep. Jane Beaulieu

FOR THE COMMITTEE

HB 245 – Representative Jane Beaulieu

Not recommended for future legislation

RSA defines “grocery or convenience store” as “any retail establishment where groceries are regularly and customarily sold for consumption off premises. Such establishment shall have and maintain groceries which are readily available to the public, the wholesale value of which shall not be less than \$3,000, exclusive of cigarettes, magazines, newspapers, wine and beverages. Such groceries shall be representative of grocery items commonly found in such stores.” This bill’s intention was to remove the requirement that a convenience store carry no less than \$3,000 of food items in its inventory. This bill is Not Recommended for Future Legislation because, according to their lobbyist, store owners do not have an issue with the \$3,000.00 inventory of food and food products.

HB 1162 – Representative Jane Beaulieu

Not recommended for future legislation

This bill is Not Recommended for Future Legislation because there is insurance coverage for these incidents according to the New Hampshire Insurance Department. Information regarding this is located on the Insurance Department’s legal information page under docket #20-016-AP.

HB 65 – Representative Jane Beaulieu

Not recommended for future legislation

The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services food safety department has made changes to its rules which include allergy awareness training for restaurant employees. Note: An individual who has life threatening allergies to some foods cannot be guaranteed absolute adherence to the rules due to staff shortages.

HB 1595 – Representative Jane Beaulieu

Not recommended for future legislation

Food truck operators/owners operating in the following cities shall obtain a city food truck license: Bedford, Berlin, Concord, Derry, Dover, Exeter, Keene, Manchester, Merrimack, Nashua, Plaistow, Portsmouth, Rochester, and Salem. This is an example of local control. The state food truck license shall apply to food truck owners in all other towns. Also, a food truck owner licensed by the state may purchase a two-day operating license in cities for a fee and for events.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 65

BILL TITLE: requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures.

DATE: October 19, 2022

LOB ROOM: 302 - 304

MOTION:

Interim Study (2nd yr) Not Recommended for Future Legislation

Moved by Rep. Beaulieu

Seconded by Rep. Hunt

Vote: 15-0

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Keith Ammon, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

EXECUTIVE SESSION on AB 65

BILL TITLE:

DATE: 10/19/22

LOB ROOM: 302 - 304

MOTION:

Recommended for Future Legislation

Not Recommended for Future Legislation

Moved by Rep. Beaulieu Seconded by Rep. Hunt Vote: 15-0

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Keith Amundson
Committee Clerk



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

10/17/2022 12:32:27 PM
Roll Call Committee Registers
Report

2022 SESSION

Commerce and Consumer Affairs *Beaulieu*

Bill #: HB 65 Motion: NR AM #: _____ Exec Session Date: 10/19/22

Members	YEAS	Nays	NV
Hunt, John B. Chairman	X	X	
Potucek, John M. Vice Chairman	X		
Osborne, Jason M.	X		
Ammon, Keith M. Clerk	X		
Abramson, Max			
Ham, Bonnie D.	X		
Depalma IV, Joseph	X		
Greeson, Jeffrey	X		
Johnson, Dawn M.	X		
Ferry, Paul A.			
Bartlett, Christy D.	X		
Abel, Richard M.			
Herbert, Christopher J.	X		
Van Houten, Constance <i>here</i>	X		
Fargo, Kristina M.			
Weston, Joyce	X		
Beaulieu, Jane E.	X		
Burroughs, Anita D.	X		
McAleer, Chris R.	X		
TOTAL VOTE:	15	0	

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE WORK SESSION on HB 65

BILL TITLE: requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures.

DATE: 10/12/22

Subcommittee Members: Reps. Hunt, Potucek, Ammon, Osborne, Abramson, Ham, Depalma IV, Greeson, Johnson, Terry, Bartlett, Abel, Herbert, Van Houten, Fargo, Weston, Beaulieu, Burroughs and McAleer

Comments and Recommendations:

- MOTION:**
- Recommended for Future Legislation
 - Not Recommended for Future Legislation

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. _____
Subcommittee Chairman/Clerk

REGULAR CALENDAR

October 29, 2021

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Majority of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs to which was referred HB 65,

AN ACT requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures. Having considered the same, report the same with the recommendation that the bill be REFERRED FOR INTERIM STUDY.

Rep. Jeffrey Greeson

FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE COMMITTEE

**MAJORITY
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee:	Commerce and Consumer Affairs
Bill Number:	HB 65
Title:	requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures.
Date:	October 29, 2021
Consent Calendar:	REGULAR
Recommendation:	REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The Department of Health and Human Services is responsible for the regulation and inspection of restaurants in the state, with the exception of those in cities that have been granted exemptions due to having their own regulations and inspectors. Of those exempted cities, all have adopted any changes when the state has enacted any new state regulations into their own. The current requirements for menus related to seafood and undercooked food are not in the state laws but, rather, they are in the Department of Health and Human Service's rules. The majority agrees that the objectives of the bill are best handled through the same administrative rules process rather than the legislative process, achieving implementation and enforcement of new regulations in a more timely manner.

Vote 10-8.

Rep. Jeffrey Greeson
FOR THE MAJORITY

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

Commerce and Consumer Affairs

HB 65, requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures.
MAJORITY: REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.

Rep. Jeffrey Greeson for the **Majority** of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. The Department of Health and Human Services is responsible for the regulation and inspection of restaurants in the state, with the exception of those in cities that have been granted exemptions due to having their own regulations and inspectors. Of those exempted cities, all have adopted any changes when the state has enacted any new state regulations into their own. The current requirements for menus related to seafood and undercooked food are not in the state laws but, rather, they are in the Department of Health and Human Service's rules. The majority agrees that the objectives of the bill are best handled through the same administrative rules process rather than the legislative process, achieving implementation and enforcement of new regulations in a more timely manner. **Vote 10-8.**

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

Heather Goley

From: John Hunt <jbhuntnh@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 29, 2021 10:19 AM
To: Heather Goley
Subject: Blurbs

HB-472 – The statute RSA 415:6-i was just amended to reduce the allowable period for a retroactive denial from 18 months to 12 months a session ago and took effect January 1, 2019. No one other than the sponsor of this bill claimed any need to further reduce the time. Lastly, a twelve month period matches what is allowed in other New England states, including Massachusetts, Vermont, and Maine. Given that no one could demonstrate a compelling need to revisit the period for retroactive denials, the majority considers HB-472 **Inexpedient to Legislate**.

HB-592 – After consulting with a few vaccine injury attorneys, it was determined that HB-592 could have the unintended consequence of hindering a vaccine-injured person's ability to receive compensation from the NVICP. However, HB-592 could be amended to cover only those vaccines not covered by the NVICP, and that would be a beneficial program. Additionally, discussion during work sessions revealed that a better funding mechanism is needed than a bond, such as a per-dose fee. Given that there are still some details that need some work, but the overall validity of the bill remains, the majority has agreed to hold HB-592 over for **interim study** to determine how best to proceed.

HB-65 – The NH Department of Health & Human Services is responsible for the regulation and inspection of restaurants in the state of NH with the exception of those cities that have been granted exemptions due to having their own regulations and inspectors. Of those exempted cities, all have adopted any changes when the state has enacted any new state regulations into their own. The current requirements for menus related to seafood and undercooked food are not in the RSA's but rather they are in the Department of Health and Human Services' rules. The majority agrees that the objectives of HB-65 are best handled through the same administrative rules process rather than the legislative process, achieving implementation and enforcement of new regulations in a more timely manner.

SB-68 – The Commerce committee had several work sessions on this legislation. The Human Rights commission claimed that the intent of the legislation was already in law, but clearly SB 68 would amend the current RSA and change how and when a pregnant employee can take her leave. When asked to show where in the current law was the bill's language, the commission referred to the next section of the law that was related to "temporary disability", which had nothing to do with pregnancy other than saying that when after a woman takes her leave of absence she would still be entitled to disability compensation and not what SB68 was about. The majority recommends SB-68 be held for **interim study** due to the language in the bill so that the conflict with the current law could be sorted out.

OK,

JBH

REGULAR CALENDAR

October 29, 2021

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

**The Minority of the Committee on Commerce and
Consumer Affairs to which was referred HB 65,**

**AN ACT requiring food service establishments to
establish food allergy awareness procedures. Having
considered the same, and being unable to agree with
the Majority, report with the recommendation that the
bill OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Joyce Weston

FOR THE MINORITY OF THE COMMITTEE

**MINORITY
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee:	Commerce and Consumer Affairs
Bill Number:	HB 65
Title:	requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures.
Date:	October 29, 2021
Consent Calendar:	REGULAR
Recommendation:	OUGHT TO PASS

STATEMENT OF INTENT

Rachel's Law is a long-overdue consumer protection bill. The personal and heartfelt testimony of many NH residents convinced us that this training is critical and that all restaurants should have an allergy policy in place, if they don't already. Responsibility needs to be taken by both sides to ensure that a tragedy like Rachel's untimely death does not ever happen again. This bill sets this up, protecting restaurants — as well as their customers. In fact, the language of the bill was a collaboration of the NH Lodging and Restaurant Association and the prime sponsor, ensuring that it would benefit both the restaurant owner and the consumer. Similar requirements are already in place on menus to notify diners about the dangers of eating raw food. There is no good reason why the same kind of notices cannot be added for food allergies.

Rep. Joyce Weston
FOR THE MINORITY

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

Commerce and Consumer Affairs

HB 65, requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures.
OUGHT TO PASS.

Rep. Joyce Weston for the **Minority** of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. Rachel's Law is a long-overdue consumer protection bill. The personal and heartfelt testimony of many NH residents convinced us that this training is critical and that all restaurants should have an allergy policy in place, if they don't already. Responsibility needs to be taken by both sides to ensure that a tragedy like Rachel's untimely death does not ever happen again. This bill sets this up, protecting restaurants — as well as their customers. In fact, the language of the bill was a collaboration of the NH Lodging and Restaurant Association and the prime sponsor, ensuring that it would benefit both the restaurant owner and the consumer. Similar requirements are already in place on menus to notify diners about the dangers of eating raw food. There is no good reason why the same kind of notices cannot be added for food allergies.

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

MINORITY REPORTS

HB 65, requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness. **Ought to pass.**

Rachel's Law is a long-overdue consumer protection bill. The personal and heartfelt testimony of many NH residents convinced us that this training is critical and that all restaurants should have an allergy policy in place, if they don't already. Responsibility needs to be taken by both sides to assure that a tragedy like Rachel's untimely death does not ever happen again. This bill sets this up, protecting restaurants — as well as their customers. In fact, the language of the bill was a collaboration of the NH Lodging and Restaurant Association and the prime sponsor, assuring that it would benefit both the restaurant owner and the consumer. Similar requirements are already in place on menus to notify diners about the dangers of eating raw food. There is no good reason why the same kind of notices cannot be added for food allergies.

HB 191, relative to prior authorizations and patient transfers under managed care group health insurance policies. **Ought to pass.**

This bill was brought forward at the request of the NH Hospital Association to address the problem of delays in care for patients, extensive administrative complexities for providers, and outright denials of payments to providers. It was also supported by the NH Medical Society. The bill does not impact the ability of the insurance provider to impose prior authorization requirements (PA), but it would expand the time of a PA "floor" from a mere 3 months to 6 months, allowing for time to schedule a visit to a specialist. We heard testimony that claimed that 6 months was still not enough! The bill also expands the range of services allowed under the PA and eases administrative burdens. This would help free up valuable intensive care hospital beds by facilitating transfers to a more appropriate level of care in a timely manner. It is both cost-effective and, in this time of extreme medical burden due to COVID-19, a timely change to our advantage. This bill would both improve care and save money.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 65

BILL TITLE: requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures.

DATE: October 26, 2021

LOB ROOM: 306 - 308

MOTIONS: REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Moved by Rep. Greeson

Seconded by Rep. Potucek

Vote: 10-8

CONSENT CALENDAR: NO

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Constance Van Houten, Acting Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 65

BILL TITLE: requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures.

DATE: 10/26/21

LOB ROOM: 306 - 308

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- ITL
- Retain (1st year)
- Adoption of Amendment # _____
- Interim Study (2nd year) (if offered)

Moved by Rep. Greenson Seconded by Rep. Pollock Vote: 10/8

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- OTP/A
- ITL
- Retain (1st year)
- Adoption of Amendment # _____
- Interim Study (2nd year) (if offered)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- OTP/A
- ITL
- Retain (1st year)
- Adoption of Amendment # _____
- Interim Study (2nd year) (if offered)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- OTP/A
- ITL
- Retain (1st year)
- Adoption of Amendment # _____
- Interim Study (2nd year) (if offered)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

CONSENT CALENDAR: _____ YES NO

Minority Report? Yes _____ No If yes, author, Rep: Weston Motion OTP

Respectfully submitted: Constance Van Houten
Rep Keith Ammon, Clerk



2021 SESSION

Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Bill #: 1065 Motion: interim study AM #: _____ Exec Session Date: 10-26-21

<u>Members</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>NV</u>
Hunt, John B. Chairman	✓		
Potucek, John M. Vice Chairman	✓		
Osborne, Jason M. <i>Rep. Gagne</i>	✓		
Ammon, Keith M. Clerk	✓		
Abramson, Max	✓		
Ham, Bonnie D.	✓		
Depalma IV, Joseph	✓		
Greeson, Jeffrey	✓		
Johnson, Dawn M.	✓		
Terry, Paul A.	✓		
Bartlett, Christy D.		✓	
Abel, Richard M.		✓	
Herbert, Christopher J.			✓
Van Houten, Constance		✓	
Fargo, Kristina M. <i>LaFlamme, Larry</i>		✓	
Weston, Joyce		✓	
Beaulieu, Jane E.		✓	
Burroughs, Anita D.		✓	
McAleer, Chris R.		✓	
TOTAL VOTE:	10	8	1

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE WORK SESSION on HB 65

BILL TITLE: requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures.

DATE: October 13, 2021

Subcommittee Members: Reps. Hunt, Potucek, Ham, Johnson, Bartlett, Abel and Weston

Comments and Recommendations:

MOTIONS: REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY

Moved by Rep. Rep. Potucek

Seconded by Rep. Rep. Hunt

Vote: 4-3

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. John Hunt
Subcommittee Chairman

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE WORK SESSION on HB 65

BILL TITLE: requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures.

DATE: October 13, 2021

Subcommittee Members: Reps. Hunt, Osborne, Ham, Johnson, Abel, Fargo and Weston
Pitucek Bartlett

Comments and Recommendations:

Three horizontal lines for handwritten comments and recommendations.

MOTIONS: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Retained (1st Yr), Interim Study (2nd Yr) (Please circle one)

Moved by Rep. Pitucek Seconded by Rep. Ham AM Vote: 4-3

Adoption of Amendment # _____

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

Amendment Adopted Amendment Failed

MOTIONS: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Retained (1st Yr), Interim Study (2nd Yr) (Please circle one)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ AM Vote: _____

Adoption of Amendment # _____

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

Amendment Adopted Amendment Failed

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Rep. Pitucek
Rep. Pitucek
Subcommittee Chairman/Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE WORK SESSION on HB 65

BILL TITLE: requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures.

DATE: September 7, 2021

Subcommittee Members: Reps. Hunt, Ham, Johnson, Weston, Burroughs, McAleer and Bartlett

Comments and Recommendations: Heard from sponsor who will work on an amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. John Hunt
Subcommittee Chairman

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE WORK SESSION on HB 65

BILL TITLE: requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures.

DATE: September 7, 2021

McVey Burrows
Hunt Osborne Ham Johnson Abel Fargo and Weston
Bartlett

Subcommittee Members: Reps. Hunt, Osborne, Ham, Johnson, Abel, Fargo and Weston

Comments and Recommendations:

Head from sponsor who will work on amendment

MOTIONS: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Retained (1st Yr), Interim Study (2nd Yr) (Please circle one)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ AM Vote: _____

Adoption of Amendment # _____

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

_____ Amendment Adopted _____ Amendment Failed

MOTIONS: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Retained (1st Yr), Interim Study (2nd Yr) (Please circle one)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ AM Vote: _____

Adoption of Amendment # _____

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

_____ Amendment Adopted _____ Amendment Failed

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. 
Subcommittee Chairman/Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE WORK SESSION on HB 191

BILL TITLE: relative to prior authorizations and patient transfers under managed care group health insurance policies.

DATE: September 21, 2021

Subcommittee Members: Reps. Hunt, Greeson, Terry, Bartlett, McAleer, Abel, Weston and Abramson

Comments and Recommendations: Tyler B - No known complaints. Minnehan - Supports Weston's amendment. Kruell & Demers - Opposed

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. John Hunt
Subcommittee Chairman

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE WORK SESSION on HB 191

BILL TITLE: relative to prior authorizations and patient transfers under managed care group health insurance policies.

DATE: September 21, 2021

Subcommittee Members: Reps. Hunt, Ammon, Greeson, Terry, Bartlett, Burroughs and McAleer

Handwritten names: Weston, Abel, Abrahamson

Comments and Recommendations:

Handwritten notes: Tyler B no know complaints, Mineham support's Weston's Amendment, Krull opposed + Demors

MOTIONS: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Retained (1st Yr), Interim Study (2nd Yr) (Please circle one)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ AM Vote: _____

Adoption of Amendment # _____

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

_____ Amendment Adopted _____ Amendment Failed

MOTIONS: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Retained (1st Yr), Interim Study (2nd Yr) (Please circle one)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ AM Vote: _____

Adoption of Amendment # _____

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

_____ Amendment Adopted _____ Amendment Failed

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature and text: Rep. _____ Subcommittee Chairman/Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON Commerce and Consumer Affairs

BILL NUMBER: HB 65

**BILL TITLE: requiring food service establishments to establish
food allergy awareness procedures.**

DATE: March 2, 2021

THE COMMITTEE HAS VOTED TO RETAIN THIS BILL.

Rep. Hunt, Chair

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 65

BILL TITLE: requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures.

DATE: March 2, 2021

LOB ROOM: Zoom

MOTIONS: **RETAINED**

Moved by Rep. Potucek

Seconded by Rep. Osborne

Vote: 10-9

CONSENT CALENDAR: YES

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Keith Ammon, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

EXECUTIVE SESSION ON HB 65

BILL TITLE: requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures;

DATE: 3/2/2021

LOB ROOM: Zoom

MOTION: (Please check one box)

OTP ITL Retain (1st year) Adoption of
Amendment # _____
 Interim Study (2nd year) (if offered)

Moved by Rep. Potucek Seconded by Rep. Osborne Vote: 10-9

MOTION: (Please check one box)

OTP OTP/A ITL Retain (1st year) Adoption of
Amendment # _____
 Interim Study (2nd year) (if offered)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

MOTION: (Please check one box)

OTP OTP/A ITL Retain (1st year) Adoption of
Amendment # _____
 Interim Study (2nd year) (if offered)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

MOTION: (Please check one box)

OTP OTP/A ITL Retain (1st year) Adoption of
Amendment # _____
 Interim Study (2nd year) (if offered)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

CONSENT CALENDAR? _____ Yes _____ No

Minority Report? _____ Yes _____ No If yes, author, Rep.: _____ Motion: _____

Respectfully submitted, Rep. Ammon, Clerk



2021 SESSION

Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Bill #: HB65 Motion: Retain AM #: _____ Exec Session Date: 3/2/2021

<u>Members</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>NV</u>
Hunt, John B. Chairman	10		
Potucek, John M. Vice Chairman	1		
Osborne, Jason M.	2		
Ammon, Keith M. Clerk	3		
Abramson, Max	4		
Ham, Bonnie D.	5		
Depalma IV, Joseph	6		
Greeson, Jeffrey	7		
Johnson, Dawn M.	8		
Terry, Paul A.	9		
Bartlett, Christy D.		1	
Abel, Richard M.		2	
Herbert, Christopher J.		3	
Van Houten, Constance		4	
Fargo, Kristina M.		5	
Weston, Joyce		6	
Beaulieu, Jane E.		7	
Burroughs, Anita D.		8	
McAlear, Chris R.		9	
TOTAL VOTE:	10	9	

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE & CONSUMER AFFAIRS

PUBLIC HEARING on Bill # HB65

BILL TITLE: requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures.

DATE: Feb 16, 2021

ROOM: Zoom

Time Public Hearing Called to Order: 9:35 AM

Time Adjourned: 11:05 AM

(please bold if present)

Committee Members: Reps. Hunt, Potucek, Ammon, Osborne, Abramson, Ham, Depalma IV, Greeson, Johnson, Terry, Bartlett, Abel, Herbert, Van Houten, Fargo, Weston, Beaulieu, Burroughs and McAleer

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

Rep Rosemarie Rung*

Bill requires food service allergy procedures. Similar to HB1102 that failed in the Senate. This applies to restaurants licensed by the state. This adds exempt jurisdictions. This was inspired by Rachel Hunger who died from an allergy. Rachel was one of 32 million people affected by food allergies. The cost of allergies is billions of dollars. Six states have passed similar bills. This bill is a sensible approach to balance food allergy needs with needs of restaurants.

Rep Hunt: You said the patron is required to notify the establishment?

A: Yes, wording on menus to tell you to notify your server. When HB1102 was first conceived, I met with Mike Summers of Restaurant Management. The training doesn't matter if they are unaware of the allergy.

Rep Hunt: The bill requires the restaurant to have a sign. The patron has to notify.

A: Similar to undercooked meat and seafood.

Rep Burroughs

Q: Is it practical for small establishment to have food protection manager there at all hours?

A: This mirrors what's in the NH food code for restaurants licensed by the state. No exceptions. Applies to all restaurants even ones not licensed by the state. Provides consistently.

Q: This seems reasonable. Small sandwich shop, is it practical to ask them to have food protection manager there at all hours?

A: This bill doesn't forbid that. This legislation doesn't assign liability. It's really to reduce the risk. Anaphylaxis is very uncommon, only about 300 cases per year in the US. 1 out of 32 people suffer from it. This is to reduce loss productivity.

John Dunn

Michael Timothy's Dining. Here to represent the industry. I'm a certified serve safe instructor. The industry has concerns with the bill. The state is already requiring the certification throughout the state. Cities are often more restrictive than the state. Concerned about crossover issues between state and towns. The biggest concern we have is getting someone sick. We all take this very seriously. The impetus is a very tragic case that no one wants to experience. The word "all" concerns us. There are so many menus that go out. There's concern that you must inform your server. There are digital menus, online menus, third party deliver service menus. This could lead to more liability for restaurants. It's upon the consumer to notify the restaurant that they have an allergy.

Rep Abramson

Q: Doesn't serve safe have a whole section on food allergens?

A: Yes, they cover the big 8 that encompass 95% of the allergens. There are thousands of allergies out there. One woman had an allergy to perfume. It's a very encompassing exam that requires study.

Q: Would this bill expand allergen training to other parts of the state?

A: It's already part of Serve Safe. Having someone on site at all times is going to be a challenge.

Rep Bartlett

Q: You said you were neutral, but it doesn't sound like you're neutral, correct?

A: We're not opposed to the bill we're opposed to some of the language in the bill. Needs to clarify a few items.

Q: This bill only covers restaurants not licensed by the state. This doesn't change the state requirements. If it mirrors the state requirements, why is there a problem with this bill?

A: Two concerns. Setting separate policy for the self-governing towns. Other concern, including it on all menus. Could be sign at the door instead of menus.

Rep Hunt: All menus and full time on duty, are those requirements in the state statutes?

A: [Connection lost]

Heather Gass*

Merrimack resident. I have a severe allergy to tree nuts. My son has multiple allergies. I ordered a meal at a Nashua restaurant that I ordered many times. The kitchen made a substitution that contained my allergy. I went into anaphylactic shock and almost lost my life. There are varying degrees of allergic reaction. Itchy throat, eyes, to anaphylaxis. 32 million people with allergies. Restaurants lose money when allergy families are afraid to dine at the establishment. Some restaurants voluntarily are allergy friendly. I urge OTP.

the allergy. (Gave examples of how her daughter was served food with allergens at multiple restaurants.) Some servers are flippant about food containing allergens. We never order online because we don't know who's on the other end. We always call and talk to someone. There are inconsistencies across restaurants. This is life or death for 1 in 13 people in NH.

Marcie Kazanowski

We first introduced this bill in 2020. Rachel Hunger was our babysitter and friend. The emotions that we feel will not bring her back. We need to spread her light and pass this law. I don't have allergies and was naïve about how prevalent food allergies are. I can share many facts about food allergies. Paint picture. You are the mother or father of a child with a food allergy. You've spent all your time protecting your child and then they go off to college. It only takes one exposure, and their life is lost. We hope you'll pass this bill.

Rep Abramson

Q: Would this bill have prevented Rachel's death?

A: It would have reduced the chances of her loss. Rachel was very aware of her allergies. I can't say that it would have prevented it. The idea is to give people more of a sense of safety.

Q: Would you agree with an amendment that required more food allergy training?

A: I would agree with that.

Nicole Caruso

I was a transfer student with Rachel. I was her roommate at UNH. That was difficult to share a room with her picture when she was in a coma. She always talked about her future. She wanted children. She wanted to help people. I'm supporting this law. I have allergies like Rachel. I've realized how life-threatening allergies can be.

Colleen Smith

From DHHS. Administrator the food protection section of DHHS. Available to answer any questions.

Rep Hunt: Does this mirror what's in the state regulation. Does the state regulation say all menus? Is there a requirement for a full-time person on duty.

A: This bill proposes rule making requirements. We could clarify the menu requirements in rules.

Q: full time duty?

A: FDA food code requires the person in charge to be a certified food protection manager. The expectation is the person in charge transfers that knowledge to others under their management. Establishments with minimal or no food preparation are exempt, Dollar store, farm stand.

Kendra Middleton


[Lost connection]


Dedra Middleton


I'm absolutely in favor. I was a friend of Rachel's. This law ensures that people who want to go out to eat can do just that. The burden shouldn't just be on the person with allergies. The people serving food should know what they're serving. I've been a food server. Servers need to know what's on the menu and what ingredients are in those items. I'm in full support.

Jodi Nelson

I'm in full support of HB65. I nearly killed my son at 22 months. Peanut butter cracker made his face swell. That was the day I came to know how dangerous food allergies can be. We eat out at establishments that take allergies very seriously. Just like I take care at home. We cannot trust our son's life to an establishment that doesn't care. Many people think the EpiPen is a cure. It's not a guarantee that it will save my son's life. Food allergies have tripled over a period of many years. Protect other anaphylactic food allergy people.

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:56 PM
From: Carrie Morris
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:46:29 PM
Subject: Rachel's Law HB65 Marcie Kazanowski.docx
Last modification date: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:46:28 PM
Conversation: Rachel's Law HB65 Marcie Kazanowski.docx
Attachments: Rachel's Law HB65 Marcie Kazanowski.docx ;


Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:56 PM
From: Marcie Kazanowski
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 7:22:15 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65 - Letter of Support
Importance: Normal
Attachments: Rachel's Law #2.docx ;

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:56 PM
From: Rosemarie Rung
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 7:29:03 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Cc: Carrie Morris
Subject: HB65 Testimony
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
HB65_Testimony.pdf 

Dear Colleagues;

Please find attached my written testimony for introduction of HB65 tomorrow at 9:30 am. I look forward to seeing you.

Rosemarie Rung
NH State Representative
Merrimack (Hillsborough 21)
603.424.6664

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:56 PM
From: Rosemarie Rung
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 7:29:03 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Cc: Carrie Morris
Subject: HB65 Testimony
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
HB65_Testimony.pdf 

Dear Colleagues;

Please find attached my written testimony for introduction of HB65 tomorrow at 9:30 am. I look forward to seeing you.

Rosemarie Rung
NH State Representative
Merrimack (Hillsborough 21)
603.424.6664

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:56 PM
From: elisabeth rousseau
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 10:05:43 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65 - Rachel's Law OUGHT TO PASS
Importance: Normal

Good afternoon,

In support of the importance of Food Allergy Awareness, my dear friend Rachel Hunger and the Hunger Family, I am reaching out to you to say that HB65 - Rachel's Law OUGHT TO PASS.

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:56 PM
From: LeJune, Samantha L
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:44:25 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65- Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Good morning,

I am emailing to request that HB65 – Rachel’s Law **ought to pass**. This is an important bill that is needed!

Thank you,

Samantha LeJune
J.D. Candidate, Class of 2022
University of North Carolina School of Law
sleJune@live.unc.edu
(713) 598-2103

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:56 PM
From: Lejune, Samantha L
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:44:25 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65- Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Good morning,

I am emailing to request that HB65 – Rachel’s Law **ought to pass**. This is an important bill that is needed!

Thank you,

Samantha LeJune
J.D. Candidate, Class of 2022
University of North Carolina School of Law
slejune@live.unc.edu
(713) 598-2103

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:56 PM
From: Chris Remillard
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:17:41 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65 - "Rachel's Law"
Importance: Normal

To Whom It May Concern:

House Bill 65, otherwise known as "Rachel's Law," is common sense legislation that would require food service establishments to create food allergy awareness procedures, including printing menus and menu boards notifying customers of their obligation to inform their server of their food allergies and training staff members as food protection managers.

In light of Rachel's tragic passing in 2019, I strongly support this bill and ask that it OUGHT TO PASS. This bill would help promote consumer safety and ensure that no family has to go through what the Hunger family has tragically endured.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Christopher Remillard
Concord, NH

Sent from my iPhone.

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:56 PM
From: Chris Remillard
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:17:41 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65 - "Rachel's Law"
Importance: Normal

To Whom It May Concern:

House Bill 65, otherwise known as "Rachel's Law," is common sense legislation that would require food service establishments to create food allergy awareness procedures, including printing menus and menu boards notifying customers of their obligation to inform their server of their food allergies and training staff members as food protection managers.

In light of Rachel's tragic passing in 2019, I strongly support this bill and ask that it OUGHT TO PASS. This bill would help promote consumer safety and ensure that no family has to go through what the Hunger family has tragically endured.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Christopher Remillard
Concord, NH

Sent from my iPhone.

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:56 PM
From: Chris Remillard
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:17:41 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65 - "Rachel's Law"
Importance: Normal

To Whom It May Concern:

House Bill 65, otherwise known as "Rachel's Law," is common sense legislation that would require food service establishments to create food allergy awareness procedures, including printing menus and menu boards notifying customers of their obligation to inform their server of their food allergies and training staff members as food protection managers.

In light of Rachel's tragic passing in 2019, I strongly support this bill and ask that it OUGHT TO PASS. This bill would help promote consumer safety and ensure that no family has to go through what the Hunger family has tragically endured.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Christopher Remillard
Concord, NH

Sent from my iPhone.

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:56 PM
From: Ellen
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 1:39:03 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members: I am writing in support of HB65, Rachels's Law in order to save lives. It is a law that is beneficial for customers as well as food serving establishments, and I feel that it is needed. Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation.

Ellen Lonergan
58 Banjo Drive
Thornton NH

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:56 PM
From: Ellen
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 1:39:03 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members: I am writing in support of HB65, Rachels's Law in order to save lives. It is a law that is beneficial for customers as well as food serving establishments, and I feel that it is needed. Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation.

Ellen Lonergan
58 Banjo Drive
Thornton NH

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:56 PM
From: stephanie22668@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 8:40:00 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Rachel's law HB65
Importance: Normal

Good morning,

I am writing to express that I am in support of HB65 (Rachel's Law)

Thank you,

Stephanie Landry
From Barnstead, NH

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:56 PM
From: stephanie22668@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 8:40:00 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Rachel's law HB65
Importance: Normal

Good morning,

I am writing to express that I am in support of HB65 (Rachel's Law)

Thank you,

Stephanie Landry
From Barnstead, NH

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:56 PM

From: Nataya Sylvestre

Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 6:56:01 AM

To: ~House Commerce Committee

Subject: NH House Remote Testify: 9:30 am - HB65 in House Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Importance: Normal

My name is Nataya Sylvestre and I am in favor of HB65 (Rachel's Law) passing. I think we as a community should be doing everything we can to try and accommodate those with allergies. If that means having to put a warning on all menus that clients need to let the server know about existing allergies and having someone who is trained in allergy awareness/ food safety why wouldn't be do that if it could save lives? Rachel was the best kind of person. She supported those she loved and was passionate about so many things. Had she not passed unexpectedly she is the type of person to cure incurable illnesses like cancer. This bill can honor her memory and help protect all the Rachel's of the world. Thank you for your time. I hope you heavily consider what this bill means to those that love and knew Rachel and to all those with food allergies themselves.

Nataya Sylvestre

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:56 PM

From: Nataya Sylvestre

Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 6:56:01 AM

To: ~House Commerce Committee

Subject: NH House Remote Testify: 9:30 am - HB65 in House Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Importance: Normal

My name is Nataya Sylvestre and I am in favor of HB65 (Rachel's Law) passing. I think we as a community should be doing everything we can to try and accommodate those with allergies. If that means having to put a warning on all menus that clients need to let the server know about existing allergies and having someone who is trained in allergy awareness/ food safety why wouldn't be do that if it could save lives? Rachel was the best kind of person. She supported those she loved and was passionate about so many things. Had she not passed unexpectedly she is the type of person to cure incurable illnesses like cancer. This bill can honor her memory and help protect all the Rachel's of the world. Thank you for your time. I hope you heavily consider what this bill means to those that love and knew Rachel and to all those with food allergies themselves.

Nataya Sylvestre

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM
From: Beckgang94@comcast.net
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 10:52:42 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Rachel's Law-HB65
Importance: Normal

Hello,

My name is Kathy Beckett. I live in Concord, N.H. and my family and I have been long time friends of the Hungers. Rachel was my youngest daughter Emily's very first best friend. We would get together at either our house or the Hungers virtually every weekend for cookouts, would trick or treat together every year and even did some family vacations camping and going to Santa's Village. They were friends, but they always felt like our extended family. When I heard the devastating news of what happened to Rachel, I cried for weeks and felt like a piece of my heart had been ripped out. I can't even imagine the pain that Dave, Jen, and their family have gone through. It breaks my heart... and what makes it all the more sad, is that this could have been prevented! Had the menu been marked with a comment next to the egg roll simply stating "contains peanut paste," I truly believe that Rachel would still be here with us today. It amazes me that with all the peanut allergies and how fatal some can be, that this restaurant made a severely poor judgment in not making that live saving notation. And unfortunately, they're not the only ones.

I think what amazes me more is that it is not a requirement for menus to have allergy information within their menus. That is why I implore you to pass this Bill. We have already lost Rachel. What if your son, daughter, parent, niece, nephew....any family member had a food allergy? Wouldn't you want them to know that what they choose to eat will be safe and not be their last meal? To me, there should be no question. Please do what is right, and pass this Bill.

Thank you,
Kathy Beckett

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM
From: Heather Gass
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 9:23:21 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65: Testimony
Importance: Normal

February 15, 2021

Heather Gass
71 Peaslee Rd.
Merrimack, NH 03054

Dear Chairman Hunt, and Members of the Commerce and Consumer Affairs Committee,

I am writing to express my support for HB65, an act requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures.

I have a severe allergy to tree nuts, and my 2-year old son has multiple life-threatening food allergies as well. This bill is important to my family and I because of the near-fatal reaction I experienced at a Nashua restaurant. I ordered a meal I had eaten at least a dozen times before at this restaurant, but this time it contained my allergen and I quickly went into anaphylaxis. My husband had our server check with the kitchen, and found out they had substituted an ingredient with a sauce containing my allergen. I was rushed to the ER and thankfully I recovered. But this near-death experience has changed my dining habits completely.

That was the most severe reaction I've had to date, but I have had many mild reactions at restaurants here in our state, even when I declare my allergen and ask for my food to be prepared without it. Many servers and cooks just don't understand the severity of food allergies, and that even the smallest amount of an allergen could cause a severe reaction.

I am not alone in my experiences dining out with allergies. According to research conducted by McKinsey and Company last year, more than 32 million Americans suffer from life-threatening food allergies¹ (roughly one in ten Americans). For New Hampshire, that means more than 131,000 of us have life threatening food allergies like my son and I.

Supporting this bill doesn't only make sense from a health standpoint, but also from an economic one. Research conducted by the National Restaurant Association in 2012, found that during normal times, restaurants in the US lose approximately \$45 million per week in potential sales² to food allergy families because, as I and many other food allergy families know, we aren't going to visit a restaurant if there is potential for a serious allergic reaction. That means critical revenue goes elsewhere, like to Massachusetts where there is already a law similar to HB65, when those dollars could have been spent in New Hampshire's restaurants if we had a better policy of informing customers about potential allergens and making sure staff are trained on how to keep customers safe.

A two-year study recently published in the January 2021 edition of the *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology: In Practice*, found that restaurants are the second most common location for food allergy reactions, that Cafes, fast food establishments, Asian restaurants, ice cream parlors and bars were the kinds of restaurants where most reactions happened, and that most notably, reactions were higher for adults than children by a more than 2 to 1 margin, 31% to 13%³. The best solution to minimizing potential reactions is two-fold: a customer informs the wait staff up front about their allergies and the menu clearly includes allergen information as well.

There are already a small number of allergy-friendly restaurants in New Hampshire like 110 Grill, Chipotle Mexican Grill, SubZero Ice Cream, and Burton's Grill who have implemented training and safety protocols to accommodate customers with food allergies. These establishments benefit from their allergy policies and training by preventing harm to their clientele and gaining the loyal patronage of the food allergic community.

With other states like our neighbors in Massachusetts and Rhode Island already enacting similar laws, there are already ample resources available for implementing the requirements of this bill.

Thank you for reading my testimony, and I hope you will support HB65 to keep families like mine safe when dining out in New Hampshire.

Thank you,
Heather Gass
71 Peaslee Rd.
Merrimack, NH 03054

Sources

¹ "What is Food Allergy?", Food Allergy Research and Education, accessed 15 February 2021, <<https://www.foodallergy.org/resources/what-food-allergy>>

² "Food Allergies & Restaurants", Food Allergy Research and Education, accessed 15 February 2021, <<https://www.foodallergy.org/resources/restaurant-legislation-toolkit>>

³ "Characteristics of Food Allergic Reactions in United States Restaurants", Roxanne C. Oriel, M.D., et al., accessed 15 February 2021, <[https://www.jaci-inpractice.org/article/S2213-2198\(20\)31350-7/fulltext](https://www.jaci-inpractice.org/article/S2213-2198(20)31350-7/fulltext)>

Additional Resources:

- "Food Allergy Knowledge and Attitudes of Restaurant Managers and Staff: An EHS-Net Study", <<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5321626/>>
- "Food Allergy in Restaurants Work Group Report", <[https://www.jaci-inpractice.org/article/S2213-2198\(19\)30791-3/fulltext](https://www.jaci-inpractice.org/article/S2213-2198(19)30791-3/fulltext)>

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM
From: Heather Gass
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 9:23:21 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65: Testimony
Importance: Normal

February 15, 2021

Heather Gass
71 Peaslee Rd.
Merrimack, NH 03054

Dear Chairman Hunt, and Members of the Commerce and Consumer Affairs Committee,

I am writing to express my support for HB65, an act requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures.

I have a severe allergy to tree nuts, and my 2-year old son has multiple life-threatening food allergies as well. This bill is important to my family and I because of the near-fatal reaction I experienced at a Nashua restaurant. I ordered a meal I had eaten at least a dozen times before at this restaurant, but this time it contained my allergen and I quickly went into anaphylaxis. My husband had our server check with the kitchen, and found out they had substituted an ingredient with a sauce containing my allergen. I was rushed to the ER and thankfully I recovered. But this near-death experience has changed my dining habits completely.

That was the most severe reaction I've had to date, but I have had many mild reactions at restaurants here in our state, even when I declare my allergen and ask for my food to be prepared without it. Many servers and cooks just don't understand the severity of food allergies, and that even the smallest amount of an allergen could cause a severe reaction.

I am not alone in my experiences dining out with allergies. According to research conducted by McKinsey and Company last year, more than 32 million Americans suffer from life-threatening food allergies¹ (roughly one in ten Americans). For New Hampshire, that means more than 131,000 of us have life threatening food allergies like my son and I.

Supporting this bill doesn't only make sense from a health standpoint, but also from an economic one. Research conducted by the National Restaurant Association in 2012, found that during normal times, restaurants in the US lose approximately \$45 million per week in potential sales² to food allergy families because, as I and many other food allergy families know, we aren't going to visit a restaurant if there is potential for a serious allergic reaction. That means critical revenue goes elsewhere, like to Massachusetts where there is already a law similar to HB65, when those dollars could have been spent in New Hampshire's restaurants if we had a better policy of informing customers about potential allergens and making sure staff are trained on how to keep customers safe.

A two-year study recently published in the January 2021 edition of the *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology: In Practice*, found that restaurants are the second most common location for food allergy reactions, that Cafes, fast food establishments, Asian restaurants, ice cream parlors and bars were the kinds of restaurants where most reactions happened, and that most notably, reactions were higher for adults than children by a more than 2 to 1 margin, 31% to 13%³. The best solution to minimizing potential reactions is two-fold: a customer informs the wait staff up front about their allergies and the menu clearly includes allergen information as well.

There are already a small number of allergy-friendly restaurants in New Hampshire like 110 Grill, Chipotle Mexican Grill, SubZero Ice Cream, and Burton's Grill who have implemented training and safety protocols to accommodate customers with food allergies. These establishments benefit from their allergy policies and training by preventing harm to their clientele and gaining the loyal patronage of the food allergic community.

With other states like our neighbors in Massachusetts and Rhode Island already enacting similar laws, there are already ample resources available for implementing the requirements of this bill.

Thank you for reading my testimony, and I hope you will support HB65 to keep families like mine safe when dining out in New Hampshire.

Thank you,
Heather Gass
71 Peaslee Rd.
Merrimack, NH 03054

Sources

¹ "What is Food Allergy?", Food Allergy Research and Education, accessed 15 February 2021, <<https://www.foodallergy.org/resources/what-food-allergy>>

² "Food Allergies & Restaurants", Food Allergy Research and Education, accessed 15 February 2021, <<https://www.foodallergy.org/resources/restaurant-legislation-toolkit>>

³ "Characteristics of Food Allergic Reactions in United States Restaurants", Roxanne C. Oriel, M.D., et al., accessed 15 February 2021, <[https://www.jaci-inpractice.org/article/S2213-2198\(20\)31350-7/fulltext](https://www.jaci-inpractice.org/article/S2213-2198(20)31350-7/fulltext)>

Additional Resources:

- "Food Allergy Knowledge and Attitudes of Restaurant Managers and Staff: An EHS-Net Study", <<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5321626/>>
- "Food Allergy in Restaurants Work Group Report", <[https://www.jaci-inpractice.org/article/S2213-2198\(19\)30791-3/fulltext](https://www.jaci-inpractice.org/article/S2213-2198(19)30791-3/fulltext)>

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM
From: Heather Gass
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 9:23:21 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65: Testimony
Importance: Normal

February 15, 2021

Heather Gass
71 Peaslee Rd.
Merrimack, NH 03054

Dear Chairman Hunt, and Members of the Commerce and Consumer Affairs Committee,

I am writing to express my support for HB65, an act requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures.

I have a severe allergy to tree nuts, and my 2-year old son has multiple life-threatening food allergies as well. This bill is important to my family and I because of the near-fatal reaction I experienced at a Nashua restaurant. I ordered a meal I had eaten at least a dozen times before at this restaurant, but this time it contained my allergen and I quickly went into anaphylaxis. My husband had our server check with the kitchen, and found out they had substituted an ingredient with a sauce containing my allergen. I was rushed to the ER and thankfully I recovered. But this near-death experience has changed my dining habits completely.

That was the most severe reaction I've had to date, but I have had many mild reactions at restaurants here in our state, even when I declare my allergen and ask for my food to be prepared without it. Many servers and cooks just don't understand the severity of food allergies, and that even the smallest amount of an allergen could cause a severe reaction.

I am not alone in my experiences dining out with allergies. According to research conducted by McKinsey and Company last year, more than 32 million Americans suffer from life-threatening food allergies¹ (roughly one in ten Americans). For New Hampshire, that means more than 131,000 of us have life threatening food allergies like my son and I.

Supporting this bill doesn't only make sense from a health standpoint, but also from an economic one. Research conducted by the National Restaurant Association in 2012, found that during normal times, restaurants in the US lose approximately \$45 million per week in potential sales² to food allergy families because, as I and many other food allergy families know, we aren't going to visit a restaurant if there is potential for a serious allergic reaction. That means critical revenue goes elsewhere, like to Massachusetts where there is already a law similar to HB65, when those dollars could have been spent in New Hampshire's restaurants if we had a better policy of informing customers about potential allergens and making sure staff are trained on how to keep customers safe.

A two-year study recently published in the January 2021 edition of the *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology: In Practice*, found that restaurants are the second most common location for food allergy reactions, that Cafes, fast food establishments, Asian restaurants, ice cream parlors and bars were the kinds of restaurants where most reactions happened, and that most notably, reactions were higher for adults than children by a more than 2 to 1 margin, 31% to 13%³. The best solution to minimizing potential reactions is two-fold: a customer informs the wait staff up front about their allergies and the menu clearly includes allergen information as well.

There are already a small number of allergy-friendly restaurants in New Hampshire like 110 Grill, Chipotle Mexican Grill, SubZero Ice Cream, and Burton's Grill who have implemented training and safety protocols to accommodate customers with food allergies. These establishments benefit from their allergy policies and training by preventing harm to their clientele and gaining the loyal patronage of the food allergic community.

With other states like our neighbors in Massachusetts and Rhode Island already enacting similar laws, there are already ample resources available for implementing the requirements of this bill.

Thank you for reading my testimony, and I hope you will support HB65 to keep families like mine safe when dining out in New Hampshire.

Thank you,
Heather Gass
71 Peaslee Rd.
Merrimack, NH 03054

Sources

- ¹ "What is Food Allergy?", Food Allergy Research and Education, accessed 15 February 2021, <<https://www.foodallergy.org/resources/what-food-allergy>>
- ² "Food Allergies & Restaurants", Food Allergy Research and Education, accessed 15 February 2021, <<https://www.foodallergy.org/resources/restaurant-legislation-toolkit>>
- ³ "Characteristics of Food Allergic Reactions in United States Restaurants", Roxanne C. Oriel, M.D., et al., accessed 15 February 2021, <[https://www.jaci-inpractice.org/article/S2213-2198\(20\)31350-7/fulltext](https://www.jaci-inpractice.org/article/S2213-2198(20)31350-7/fulltext)>

Additional Resources:

- "Food Allergy Knowledge and Attitudes of Restaurant Managers and Staff: An EHS-Net Study", <<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5321626/>>
- "Food Allergy in Restaurants Work Group Report", <[https://www.jaci-inpractice.org/article/S2213-2198\(19\)30791-3/fulltext](https://www.jaci-inpractice.org/article/S2213-2198(19)30791-3/fulltext)>

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM
From: elisabeth rousseau
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 9:06:26 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: New Hampshire HB65
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members,

I encourage you to please vote in favor of NH HB65. The State of New Hampshire lacks formal regulations for restaurants regarding food allergies. This results in a failure to combat food allergy related health issues directly within restaurant settings or as a result of a restaurant service. Again, I am asking you to please consider voting for NH HB65. If passed, this bill will protect the rights of the citizens of New Hampshire through improving their ability to enjoy a meal at a restaurant without harmful repercussions. Let's take initiative.

Thank you for your consideration,
Elisabeth Rousseau

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM
From: elisabeth rousseau
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 9:06:26 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: New Hampshire HB65
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members,

I encourage you to please vote in favor of NH HB65. The State of New Hampshire lacks formal regulations for restaurants regarding food allergies. This results in a failure to combat food allergy related health issues directly within restaurant settings or as a result of a restaurant service. Again, I am asking you to please consider voting for NH HB65. If passed, this bill will protect the rights of the citizens of New Hampshire through improving their ability to enjoy a meal at a restaurant without harmful repercussions. Let's take initiative.

Thank you for your consideration,
Elisabeth Rousseau

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM

From: Becca Weiss

Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 8:27:29 PM

To: ~House Commerce Committee

Subject: NH House Remote Testify: 9:30 am - HB65 in House Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Importance: Normal

Please please consider taking the first, small step in bringing awareness in restaurants to food allergies. My son, myself, and my husband all have food allergies. For the most part we don't want to go out to eat because we frequently feel like a nuisance to the public. I have a severe soy allergy and I cannot tell you the amount of times after reporting my allergy to a server that I have gotten the response "I'm pretty sure there isn't soy in that. Why would there be?" The lack of knowledge is shocking. If there was education and awareness and an expert on site, the response may be different.

I knew Rachel and she is/was an incredible person. It would be a disservice to her memory to not take action to try and make steps towards stopping another accidental death from food allergies.

Please consider supporting this bill. No one else deserves to die.

Becca Weiss

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM

From: Becca Weiss

Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 8:27:29 PM

To: ~House Commerce Committee

Subject: NH House Remote Testify: 9:30 am - HB65 in House Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Importance: Normal

Please please consider taking the first, small step in bringing awareness in restaurants to food allergies. My son, myself, and my husband all have food allergies. For the most part we don't want to go out to eat because we frequently feel like a nuisance to the public. I have a severe soy allergy and I cannot tell you the amount of times after reporting my allergy to a server that I have gotten the response "I'm pretty sure there isn't soy in that. Why would there be?" The lack of knowledge is shocking. If there was education and awareness and an expert on site, the response may be different.

I knew Rachel and she is/was an incredible person. It would be a disservice to her memory to not take action to try and make steps towards stopping another accidental death from food allergies.

Please consider supporting this bill. No one else deserves to die.

Becca Weiss

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM

From: Becca Weiss

Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 8:27:29 PM

To: ~House Commerce Committee

Subject: NH House Remote Testify: 9:30 am - HB65 in House Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Importance: Normal

Please please consider taking the first, small step in bringing awareness in restaurants to food allergies. My son, myself, and my husband all have food allergies. For the most part we don't want to go out to eat because we frequently feel like a nuisance to the public. I have a severe soy allergy and I cannot tell you the amount of times after reporting my allergy to a server that I have gotten the response "I'm pretty sure there isn't soy in that. Why would there be?" The lack of knowledge is shocking. If there was education and awareness and an expert on site, the response may be different.

I knew Rachel and she is/was an incredible person. It would be a disservice to her memory to not take action to try and make steps towards stopping another accidental death from food allergies.

Please consider supporting this bill. No one else deserves to die.

Becca Weiss

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM
From: Jane Segal
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 8:13:58 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65 Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Hello House of Commerce

My name is Jane Segal and the death of Rachel has really affected not only me but so many others. I have known Rachel since I was 13, she was 15. She has had such a big impact on my life and many others. From taking long walks in the woods, or just talking in the car; every moment was so special to me. Her passing affected everyone that was involved in her life. Only 1 in 1000th of a peanut is what it takes to kill someone with the terrible allergy. Imagine your throat closes up and lose all consciousness. This is how Rachel lived her last moments. In panic and terror. Rachel was such a sweet loving selfless girl. I could never imagine the worry and fear she must have felt before she lost consciousness. Her world went black and she closed her eyes for the last time. The food we buy in stores and restaurants should be required to be transparent about the ingredients used and the countless allergens they may contain. Would you feel comfortable shopping for your everyday groceries if the companies selling them refused to put that information on the item's packaging? I struggle with epilepsy and there are always flash warnings to prevent others like myself from having life threatening seizures. Why can't they do the same thing for people with food allergies? It would save so many lives if restaurants and companies put warnings on menus and packaging. Rachel passed because of lack of compassion and care of others. This could prevent hundreds or even thousands of deaths. I will always advocate to prevent the same accident that tragically took Rachel's precious life.

Sincerely,

Jane Segal
Resident of Bow, NH 03304

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM
From: Jane Segal
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 8:13:58 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65 Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Hello House of Commerce

My name is Jane Segal and the death of Rachel has really affected not only me but so many others. I have known Rachel since I was 13, she was 15. She has had such a big impact on my life and many others. From taking long walks in the woods, or just talking in the car; every moment was so special to me. Her passing affected everyone that was involved in her life. Only 1 in 1000th of a peanut is what it takes to kill someone with the terrible allergy. Imagine your throat closes up and lose all consciousness. This is how Rachel lived her last moments. In panic and terror. Rachel was such a sweet loving selfless girl. I could never imagine the worry and fear she must have felt before she lost consciousness. Her world went black and she closed her eyes for the last time. The food we buy in stores and restaurants should be required to be transparent about the ingredients used and the countless allergens they may contain. Would you feel comfortable shopping for your everyday groceries if the companies selling them refused to put that information on the item's packaging? I struggle with epilepsy and there are always flash warnings to prevent others like myself from having life threatening seizures. Why can't they do the same thing for people with food allergies? It would save so many lives if restaurants and companies put warnings on menus and packaging. Rachel passed because of lack of compassion and care of others. This could prevent hundreds or even thousands of deaths. I will always advocate to prevent the same accident that tragically took Rachel's precious life.

Sincerely,

Jane Segal
Resident of Bow, NH 03304

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM

From: Melanie Steenbeke

Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 8:04:10 PM

To: ~House Commerce Committee

Subject: NH House Remote Testify: 9:30 am - HB65 in House Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Importance: Normal

Hello,

I am a from Loudon NH. I am a family friend of the Hunger Family. I witnessed the suffering of this family while the waited and prayed for their baby girl to live. No family should ever have to go through this.

I support HB65!

Thank you

Melanie Steenbeke

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM

From: Melanie Steenbeke

Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 8:04:10 PM

To: ~House Commerce Committee

Subject: NH House Remote Testify: 9:30 am - HB65 in House Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Importance: Normal

Hello,

I am a from Loudon NH. I am a family friend of the Hunger Family. I witnessed the suffering of this family while the waited and prayed for their baby girl to live. No family should ever have to go through this.

I support HB65!

Thank you

Melanie Steenbeke

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM
From: Melissa Zuccaro
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 8:03:55 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65
Importance: Normal

As a resident of Hudson, NH, I would much like to see Rachel's Law passed. Every person deserves to be able to eat meals out without fearing for their lives.

Sincerely,
Melissa & Jeffrey Zuccaro
1 Rosemary Ct
Hudson, NH 03051

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM
From: Melissa Zuccaro
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 8:03:55 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65
Importance: Normal

As a resident of Hudson, NH, I would much like to see Rachel's Law passed. Every person deserves to be able to eat meals out without fearing for their lives.

Sincerely,
Melissa & Jeffrey Zuccaro
1 Rosemary Ct
Hudson, NH 03051

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM
From: Riana Armstrong
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 7:15:07 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Support HB65
Importance: Normal

Good evening,
I am writing today to express my support of HB 65 (Rachel's Law).
Sincerely
Riana Armstrong
103 Broadway Ave
Manchester NH
03104

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM
From: Riana Armstrong
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 7:15:07 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Support HB65
Importance: Normal

Good evening,
I am writing today to express my support of HB 65 (Rachel's Law).
Sincerely
Riana Armstrong
103 Broadway Ave
Manchester NH
03104

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM
From: smrackett@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 5:51:30 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Rachel's Law HB65
Importance: Normal

To whom it may concern,

I am IN SUPPORT of HB65 - Rachel's Law.

Suzanne Rackett
22 Cat Tail Circle
Rindge NH

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM
From: Jane WESCOMB
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 5:18:09 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65
Importance: Normal

Please understand the importance of this bill. It could save lives!
We are depending on you!!
Jane Wescomb
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM
From: Jane WESCOMB
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 5:18:09 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65
Importance: Normal

Please understand the importance of this bill. It could save lives!
We are depending on you!!
Jane Wescomb
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM
From: Jane WESCOMB
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 5:18:09 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65
Importance: Normal

Please understand the importance of this bill. It could save lives!
We are depending on you!!
Jane Wescomb
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:57 PM
From: Lacey Isabelle
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 5:13:19 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65-- Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Hello House Commerce and Consumer Affairs Committee

In spring of 2016 I was standing in line alphabetically at Concord High School's NH Scholar Awards Night. Despite struggling with an underlying mental illness, I strived for academic success.

During this time of my life I didn't have many friends. I was blessed to be standing beside Rachel Hunger, who quickly became my friend. Ironically enough, Rachel was also at a similar point in her life. After some small talk I found out two things 1. Both of our boyfriends played football together and 2. Rachel was extremely allergic to peanuts— something she always made sure to tell new people she met.

Come graduation time, Rachel and I were next to each other yet again. It was as if we were meant to be placed in each others lives at that exact moment. That summer we spent nearly every day together. Going on small hikes, long car rides listening to our favorite music, and supporting our boyfriends from the sidelines. Soon enough we were glued to each others hip. By the end of summer Rachel suggested I come work for her mom, Jenn, at Little Sprouts, the same childcare she worked at.

Through my experience working with Rachel at Little Sprouts, she taught me how to be dedicated, how to care, how to comfort, how to forgive, and most importantly how to love. If you were lucky enough to know Rachel you would know that she was a beautiful young woman— but her beauty went far past her physical features. The beauty she held in her heart was something special, something most people lack. She spoke with wisdom beyond her years and was the most considerate and compassionate person. Rachel became my best friend, my person. She was the one to dig me out of my depression, despite dealing with her own. She was a selfless, one of a kind friend.

Going to colleges in two different states was so hard. Even though we were hundreds of miles away from each other, Rachel always stayed in my life, whether it was hilarious snapchats, hour long FaceTime calls, our driving 2 hours to steal me from my campus and bring me back home to Concord— Rachel was that type of friend— a forever friend. We were so close you could consider us telepathic twins. We would laugh the same, speak the same, had similar interests, but one thing I keep close to me is how we would always accidentally match. Even while separated hundreds of miles apart.

My favorite memories were the ones spent with Rachel. She brought me a sense of peace and happiness like no other.

My heart shattered and my world crumbled on April 19th, 2019— the day Rachel went into anaphylaxis after eating an egg roll containing 2% peanut paste. For someone so brilliantly smart and aware of her food allergy, this was a horrific accident. I would never wish the amount of pain and trauma that myself and her loved ones feel on any other individual.

I ask for your support. By passing HB65 and requiring licensed food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures, so many other lives will be saved. Not only saving lives of those with food allergies, but saving so many other families, friends, and communities from excruciating heartbreak and trauma. No other individual or families deserve to go through such a horrific event. Other countries such as Mexico and Costa Rica already have these laws in place considering how much more prominent food allergies have become. Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Rhode Island, and Virginia are the only states in the United States to have restaurant laws. Rachel always taught me to be confident and put up a good fight for whatever you believe in. This is my fight to help do what's right. It's time to #BeTheMiracle, pass this bill, and work on becoming the next state to have legislations related to restaurants and customers with food allergies. Lets all help to make the world a healthier and safer place.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Lacey Isabelle
Deerfield NH resident

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: Lacey Isabelle
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 5:13:19 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65-- Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Hello House Commerce and Consumer Affairs Committee

In spring of 2016 I was standing in line alphabetically at Concord High School's NH Scholar Awards Night. Despite struggling with an underlying mental illness, I strived for academic success.

During this time of my life I didn't have many friends. I was blessed to be standing beside Rachel Hunger, who quickly became my friend. Ironically enough, Rachel was also at a similar point in her life. After some small talk I found out two things 1. Both of our boyfriends played football together and 2. Rachel was extremely allergic to peanuts— something she always made sure to tell new people she met.

Come graduation time, Rachel and I were next to each other yet again. It was as if we were meant to be placed in each others lives at that exact moment. That summer we spent nearly every day together. Going on small hikes, long car rides listening to our favorite music, and supporting our boyfriends from the sidelines. Soon enough we were glued to each others hip. By the end of summer Rachel suggested I come work for her mom, Jenn, at Little Sprouts, the same childcare she worked at.

Through my experience working with Rachel at Little Sprouts, she taught me how to be dedicated, how to care, how to comfort, how to forgive, and most importantly how to love. If you were lucky enough to know Rachel you would know that she was a beautiful young woman— but her beauty went far past her physical features. The beauty she held in her heart was something special, something most people lack. She spoke with wisdom beyond her years and was the most considerate and compassionate person. Rachel became my best friend, my person. She was the one to dig me out of my depression, despite dealing with her own. She was a selfless, one of a kind friend.

Going to colleges in two different states was so hard. Even though we were hundreds of miles away from each other, Rachel always stayed in my life, whether it was hilarious snapchat, hour long FaceTime calls, our driving 2 hours to steal me from my campus and bring me back home to Concord— Rachel was that type of friend— a forever friend. We were so close you could consider us telepathic twins. We would laugh the same, speak the same, had similar interests, but one thing I keep close to me is how we would always accidentally match. Even while separated hundreds of miles apart.

My favorite memories were the ones spent with Rachel. She brought me a sense of peace and happiness like no other.

My heart shattered and my world crumbled on April 19th, 2019— the day Rachel went into anaphylaxis after eating an egg roll containing 2% peanut paste. For someone so brilliantly smart and aware of her food allergy, this was a horrific accident. I would never wish the amount of pain and trauma that myself and her loved ones feel on any other individual.

I ask for your support. By passing HB65 and requiring licensed food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures, so many other lives will be saved. Not only saving lives of those with food allergies, but saving so many other families, friends, and communities from excruciating heartbreak and trauma. No other individual or families deserve to go through such a horrific event. Other countries such as Mexico and Costa Rica already have these laws in place considering how much more prominent food allergies have become. Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Rhode Island, and Virginia are the only states in the United States to have restaurant laws. Rachel always taught me to be confident and put up a good fight for whatever you believe in. This is my fight to help do what's right. It's time to #BeTheMiracle, pass this bill, and work on becoming the next state to have legislations related to restaurants and customers with food allergies. Lets all help to make the world a healthier and safer place.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Lacey Isabelle
Deerfield NH resident

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: Natasha Perron
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 5:08:00 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65
Importance: Normal

Good Evening,

I show my support for passing HB65. Please consider the profound impact this bill could have on saving lives. No family should ever experience the pain and loss the Hunger family endured with the tragic death of their beautiful child. The steps we can take today to prevent future loss is essential in the preventive measures that must be taken to ensure this never happens again. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Natasha Perron
413 Rt 129
Loudon NH 3307

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: Natasha Perron
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 5:08:00 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65
Importance: Normal

Good Evening,

I show my support for passing HB65. Please consider the profound impact this bill could have on saving lives. No family should ever experience the pain and loss the Hunger family endured with the tragic death of their beautiful child. The steps we can take today to prevent future loss is essential in the preventive measures that must be taken to ensure this never happens again. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Natasha Perron
413 Rt 129
Loudon NH 3307

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: Colleen Kennedy
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 4:58:57 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65 - Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Good Evening,

I am writing to share my support of HB65- Rachel's Law. The peace of mind that this law can bring to so many families is worthwhile in itself, along with the lifesaving impact it can have. I went to a restaurant in Concord a few years ago and had an allergic reaction to pine nuts that I was unaware of in my meal. Thankfully my allergic reaction was mild but another person, or family, or child could have had a much different outcome. I fully support Rachel's Law and the lives that it could save. Families deserve to feel safe dining out with their families regardless of allergies.

I hope you have a wonderful night.

Colleen Ortakales
Bow, NH

HB65 - Rachel's Law

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: Colleen Kennedy
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 4:58:57 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65 - Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Good Evening,

I am writing to share my support of HB65- Rachel's Law. The peace of mind that this law can bring to so many families is worthwhile in itself, along with the lifesaving impact it can have. I went to a restaurant in Concord a few years ago and had an allergic reaction to pine nuts that I was unaware of in my meal. Thankfully my allergic reaction was mild but another person, or family, or child could have had a much different outcome. I fully support Rachel's Law and the lives that it could save. Families deserve to feel safe dining out with their families regardless of allergies.

I hope you have a wonderful night.

Colleen Ortakales
Bow, NH

HB65 - Rachel's Law

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: Emily
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 4:50:24 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Please vote in favor of HB65 tomorrow
Importance: Normal

Good evening,

I'm writing to ask you to please vote in favor of HB65 tomorrow. This bill is being proposed for my cousin Rachel, who sadly lost her life way too young due to eating food she was unaware had peanuts in it, despite being vigilant with her allergy precautions. Please help ensure this doesn't happen to anyone else. Thank you so much.

Emily Larson
Concord, NH

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: Emily
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 4:50:24 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Please vote in favor of HB65 tomorrow
Importance: Normal

Good evening,

I'm writing to ask you to please vote in favor of HB65 tomorrow. This bill is being proposed for my cousin Rachel, who sadly lost her life way too young due to eating food she was unaware had peanuts in it, despite being vigilant with her allergy precautions. Please help ensure this doesn't happen to anyone else. Thank you so much.

Emily Larson
Concord, NH

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: Emily
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 4:50:24 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Please vote in favor of HB65 tomorrow
Importance: Normal

Good evening,

I'm writing to ask you to please vote in favor of HB65 tomorrow. This bill is being proposed for my cousin Rachel, who sadly lost her life way too young due to eating food she was unaware had peanuts in it, despite being vigilant with her allergy precautions. Please help ensure this doesn't happen to anyone else. Thank you so much.

Emily Larson
Concord, NH

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: Mary Baillargeon
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 12:58:12 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Support for HB65 / personal testimony
Importance: Normal

Hello,

My name is Mary Baillargeon, from Manchester.

I would like to provide some personal testimony in support of HB65

My son is allergic to peanuts and tree nuts. There is no cure. Like all those with food allergies, he is at risk of a fatal reaction from even a trace amount of his allergen.

Dining out is something we do rarely with him, as there is huge variability in understanding of food allergies.

We have tried to go by the online menus for chains - which list allergens, only to be told in the restaurant by the manager and server that no, those items are not actually safe. We have tried calling ahead during non busy times, told certain items are safe, then when arriving at restaurant again being told things aren't safe. Certainly we prefer if any doubt servers/management tell us so, however the inconsistencies are frustrating. Imagine wanting to attend a family birthday celebration, only to find out at the table you can't eat anything. Multiple times I have had servers tell me no nuts are used, when we then have to point out menu items that clearly include nuts to try and clarify. Multiple times I have also been asked by employees what a tree nut is.

It is impossible to have any level of comfort that informing staff of allergies will help, when they often have little understanding of allergies, their severity, or how things like cross contamination play a role.

Restaurants are a common location for allergic reactions.

<https://www.allergicliving.com/2021/01/17/allergic-reactions-in-restaurants-are-common-yet-training-lags/>

Food allergies are only increasing - in adults as well as children.

The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention reports that the prevalence of food allergy in children increased by 50 percent between 1997 and 2011.

This is an issue that will continue to impact more and more people in NH. It can have fatal consequences.

We believe this bill is an important step to protect and improve the lives of those suffering with food allergies.

Thank you,

Mary Baillargeon

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: Mary Baillargeon
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 12:58:12 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Support for HB65 / personal testimony
Importance: Normal

Hello,

My name is Mary Baillargeon, from Manchester.

I would like to provide some personal testimony in support of HB65

My son is allergic to peanuts and tree nuts. There is no cure. Like all those with food allergies, he is at risk of a fatal reaction from even a trace amount of his allergen.

Dining out is something we do rarely with him, as there is huge variability in understanding of food allergies.

We have tried to go by the online menus for chains - which list allergens, only to be told in the restaurant by the manager and server that no, those items are not actually safe. We have tried calling ahead during non busy times, told certain items are safe, then when arriving at restaurant again being told things aren't safe. Certainly we prefer if any doubt servers/management tell us so, however the inconsistencies are frustrating. Imagine wanting to attend a family birthday celebration, only to find out at the table you can't eat anything. Multiple times I have had servers tell me no nuts are used, when we then have to point out menu items that clearly include nuts to try and clarify. Multiple times I have also been asked by employees what a tree nut is.

It is impossible to have any level of comfort that informing staff of allergies will help, when they often have little understanding of allergies, their severity, or how things like cross contamination play a role.

Restaurants are a common location for allergic reactions.

<https://www.allergicliving.com/2021/01/17/allergic-reactions-in-restaurants-are-common-yet-training-lags/>

Food allergies are only increasing - in adults as well as children.

The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention reports that the prevalence of food allergy in children increased by 50 percent between 1997 and 2011.

This is an issue that will continue to impact more and more people in NH. It can have fatal consequences.

We believe this bill is an important step to protect and improve the lives of those suffering with food allergies.

Thank you,

Mary Baillargeon

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: Terri Tole
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 10:49:02 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65 - Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members,

I am sending this e-mail to show my support for HB65, Rachel's Law. I myself have a daughter with a Tree Nut allergy which can put her life in danger. These allergies are becoming more common so it is time to protect our children before more lives are taken.

Thank you,

Terri Tole
18 Ryan Circle, Campton, NH 03223
603-921-0053

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: Terri Tole
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 10:49:02 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65 - Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members,

I am sending this e-mail to show my support for HB65, Rachel's Law. I myself have a daughter with a Tree Nut allergy which can put her life in danger. These allergies are becoming more common so it is time to protect our children before more lives are taken.

Thank you,

Terri Tole
18 Ryan Circle, Campton, NH 03223
603-921-0053

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: Kendra Middleton
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 10:39:51 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65
Importance: Normal

To whom it may concern,

My name is Kendra Middleton and I requested a few minutes to speak tomorrow on HB65. I will be speaking on Rachel Hungers last few minutes of life, what it is like living in a world with a deadly food allergy, and how many adults and children statistically live with deadly food allergies.

Best,

Kendra Middleton,
She/Hers

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: Kendra Middleton
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 10:39:51 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65
Importance: Normal

To whom it may concern,

My name is Kendra Middleton and I requested a few minutes to speak tomorrow on HB65. I will be speaking on Rachel Hungers last few minutes of life, what it is like living in a world with a deadly food allergy, and how many adults and children statistically live with deadly food allergies.

Best,

Kendra Middleton,
She/Hers

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: Caitlin Estee
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 1:55:17 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Re: In support of HB65
Importance: Normal

My residence is 76 Wethersfield Drive
Northfield, NH 03276

Sent from my iPhone

> On Feb 14, 2021, at 10:18 AM, Caitlin Estee <caitlinestee@yahoo.com> wrote:

>

> To Whom It May Concern,

>

> I'm reaching out to voice my support for Rachel's Law (HB65). As a mom, teacher, and a family member of a Concord restaurant owner, I believe it is such a simple request that would keep so many people safe. There is no negative affect on businesses.

>

> Thank you for your time and consideration,

>

> Caitlin Rackett

>

> Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: Caitlin Estee
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 1:55:17 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Re: In support of HB65
Importance: Normal

My residence is 76 Wethersfield Drive
Northfield, NH 03276

Sent from my iPhone

> On Feb 14, 2021, at 10:18 AM, Caitlin Estee <caitlinestee@yahoo.com> wrote:

>

> To Whom It May Concern,

>

> I'm reaching out to voice my support for Rachel's Law (HB65). As a mom, teacher, and a family member of a Concord restaurant owner, I believe it is such a simple request that would keep so many people safe. There is no negative affect on businesses.

>

> Thank you for your time and consideration,

>

> Caitlin Rackett

>

> Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: Dedra Middleton
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 11:57:07 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Support HB65
Importance: Normal

Committee Members,

I have signed up to speak in support of HB65 at 9:30am on February 16, 2021 and as requested, I'm emailing you my written testimony.

Although I am not a New Hampshire resident, I'm writing to you in support of passing HB65 which will mandate all restaurants to have a designated employee on the premises during all operating hours who has been certified with regards to food allergies. Not only should this law be passed in the beautiful state of New Hampshire, it should be Nationwide and you have an opportunity to make a difference starting in your state.

My daughter was with her best friend Rachel Hunger on the night she ate an egg roll not knowing it contained peanut paste and went into cardiac arrest, passing away 18 days later.

It's too late to help Rachel but this bill could make a difference, so other friends and family members do not have to suffer the loss of a loved one.

In October of 2019, I was at breakfast with my family members, and my seven-year-old nephew has tree nut allergies. The first thing I stated to the waitress was that "we have a tree nut allergy" pointing to my nephew, she replied "no problem the only thing we have are pecans and they are separated for the other food items. Not even five minutes later, she brings three containers of syrup for the pancakes my nephew ordered. We are all talking, and Cael is reading the container labels and I hear him say "pecan". I picked up the syrup containers and approached the waitress pointing out the pecan syrup and explaining cross-contamination with food allergies can be fatal to people. I know she did not do this intentionally and it seems like an innocent mistake to some people but not to a person living with a food allergy. Having a designated restaurant employee trained regarding food allergies can prevent things like this happening in restaurants, it will save lives.

Make a difference, "Be the Miracle" and pass HB65.

Sincerely,
Dedra Middleton

This email and any attachments are intended only for the use of the addressee, and may contain information that is privileged or confidential. The information contained in this email is for informational purposes only and does not constitute a commitment or agreement by RPT Realty or its affiliates.

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: Dedra Middleton
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 11:57:07 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Support HB65
Importance: Normal

Committee Members,

I have signed up to speak in support of HB65 at 9:30am on February 16, 2021 and as requested, I'm emailing you my written testimony.

Although I am not a New Hampshire resident, I'm writing to you in support of passing HB65 which will mandate all restaurants to have a designated employee on the premises during all operating hours who has been certified with regards to food allergies. Not only should this law be passed in the beautiful state of New Hampshire, it should be Nationwide and you have an opportunity to make a difference starting in your state.

My daughter was with her best friend Rachel Hunger on the night she ate an egg roll not knowing it contained peanut paste and went into cardiac arrest, passing away 18 days later.

It's too late to help Rachel but this bill could make a difference, so other friends and family members do not have to suffer the loss of a loved one.

In October of 2019, I was at breakfast with my family members, and my seven-year-old nephew has tree nut allergies. The first thing I stated to the waitress was that "we have a tree nut allergy" pointing to my nephew, she replied "no problem the only thing we have are pecans and they are separated for the other food items. Not even five minutes later, she brings three containers of syrup for the pancakes my nephew ordered. We are all talking, and Cael is reading the container labels and I hear him say "pecan". I picked up the syrup containers and approached the waitress pointing out the pecan syrup and explaining cross-contamination with food allergies can be fatal to people. I know she did not do this intentionally and it seems like an innocent mistake to some people but not to a person living with a food allergy. Having a designated restaurant employee trained regarding food allergies can prevent things like this happening in restaurants, it will save lives.

Make a difference, "Be the Miracle" and pass HB65.

Sincerely,
Dedra Middleton

This email and any attachments are intended only for the use of the addressee, and may contain information that is privileged or confidential. The information contained in this email is for informational purposes only and does not constitute a commitment or agreement by RPT Realty or its affiliates.

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: joseph rackett jr
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 10:21:00 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Support HB65
Importance: Normal

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to show support for Rachel's Law (HB 65).

Thank you for your time,

Joseph Rackett Jr

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: joseph rackett jr
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 10:21:00 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Support HB65
Importance: Normal

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to show support for Rachel's Law (HB 65).

Thank you for your time,

Joseph Rackett Jr

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: Caitlin Estee
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 10:18:38 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: In support of HB65
Importance: Normal

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm reaching out to voice my support for Rachel's Law (HB65). As a mom, teacher, and a family member of a Concord restaurant owner, I believe it is such a simple request that would keep so many people safe. There is no negative affect on businesses.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Caitlin Rackett

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: Caitlin Estee
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 10:18:38 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: In support of HB65
Importance: Normal

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm reaching out to voice my support for Rachel's Law (HB65). As a mom, teacher, and a family member of a Concord restaurant owner, I believe it is such a simple request that would keep so many people safe. There is no negative affect on businesses.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Caitlin Rackett

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: George Tarwo
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 8:37:49 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65- Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Good morning House Commerce Committee,

I'd like to introduce myself— my name is George Tarwo. The reason why I write you today is to tel you I'm in full support of this bill and pray you will all have kind hearts and will choose to support this bill as well. I live in Concord NH and I have lived in here for 18 years. I came to Concord when I was a refugee from Liberia. I went to Concord High School with Rachel. She was a very kind person with a mindset of "if you do good, good will come back". I'd like to hope that the passing of this bill will become the 'good' that will come back to her. She always made sure students at Concord High felt welcomed and appreciated. Rachel became very close with my girlfriend in 2016, eventually become best friends. Her death has hit her really hard and most of you may know handling death isn't easy. Although, maybe some of you have been fortunate enough to avoid this type of pain and heartbreak, especially if it could have been prevented. By passing HB65, you can all help to #BeTheMiracle and prevent this horrible accident from happening to others. One preventable life lost is one too many.

Thank you for taking your time to read and consider passing this bill.

Respectfully,
George Tarwo

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: George Tarwo
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 8:37:49 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65- Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Good morning House Commerce Committee,

I'd like to introduce myself— my name is George Tarwo. The reason why I write you today is to tel you I'm in full support of this bill and pray you will all have kind hearts and will choose to support this bill as well. I live in Concord NH and I have lived in here for 18 years. I came to Concord when I was a refugee from Liberia. I went to Concord High School with Rachel. She was a very kind person with a mindset of "if you do good, good will come back". I'd like to hope that the passing of this bill will become the 'good' that will come back to her. She always made sure students at Concord High felt welcomed and appreciated. Rachel became very close with my girlfriend in 2016, eventually become best friends. Her death has hit her really hard and most of you may know handling death isn't easy. Although, maybe some of you have been fortunate enough to avoid this type of pain and heartbreak, especially if it could have been prevented. By passing HB65, you can all help to #BeTheMiracle and prevent this horrible accident from happening to others. One preventable life lost is one too many.

Thank you for taking your time to read and consider passing this bill.

Respectfully,
George Tarwo

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:58 PM
From: Jennifer Lemieux
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 3:05:59 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65
Importance: Normal

Dear Representatives,

My name is Jennifer Lemieux and I am writing to you today in regards to House Bill 65 requiring all restaurants in NH to have a certified food safety person on duty during all operating hours. They will be trained with regard to food allergy safety.

Unfortunately, far too many people do not understand the seriousness of food allergies. I admit I was one of those people until the day my friend's daughter passed away from a severe allergic reaction to peanuts. I had the pleasure of working with Rachel Hunger at Little Sprouts in Bow, NH. We all knew she had a peanut and soy allergy and had been exposed a few times. Each time she was able to take some Benadryl and be fine. Then one day she unknowingly ate an eggroll that was made with peanut paste at a local restaurant near her college. This time Benadryl as well as two Epi-pen injections did not save her and she went into cardiac arrest and lost oxygen to her brain. The brain damage was so extensive, she could no longer sustain life.

I believe that if this restaurant had a certified food safety person, Rachel may still be with us today. My hope is that no other family would have to lay their loved one to rest for something that is so preventable.

I ask that you please vote yes on the bill to help protect the thousands of people that suffer from food allergies. Thank you for your consideration.

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:59 PM
From: Jennifer Lemieux
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 3:05:59 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65
Importance: Normal

Dear Representatives,

My name is Jennifer Lemieux and I am writing to you today in regards to House Bill 65 requiring all restaurants in NH to have a certified food safety person on duty during all operating hours. They will be trained with regard to food allergy safety.

Unfortunately, far too many people do not understand the seriousness of food allergies. I admit I was one of those people until the day my friend's daughter passed away from a severe allergic reaction to peanuts. I had the pleasure of working with Rachel Hunger at Little Sprouts in Bow, NH. We all knew she had a peanut and soy allergy and had been exposed a few times. Each time she was able to take some Benadryl and be fine. Then one day she unknowingly ate an eggroll that was made with peanut paste at a local restaurant near her college. This time Benadryl as well as two Epi-pen injections did not save her and she went into cardiac arrest and lost oxygen to her brain. The brain damage was so extensive, she could no longer sustain life.

I believe that if this restaurant had a certified food safety person, Rachel may still be with us today. My hope is that no other family would have to lay their loved one to rest for something that is so preventable.

I ask that you please vote yes on the bill to help protect the thousands of people that suffer from food allergies. Thank you for your consideration.

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:59 PM
From: Kathleen Herzig
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 12:10:28 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: In support of HB65
Importance: Normal

Dear Commerce Committee members,

I'm writing to implore you to please vote in favor of HB65. As a person with food allergies, I was shocked to learn that policies for restaurants to inform consumers about potential allergens in their food was not already a law in NH. It makes me much less likely to order food from NH's restaurants at a time I know they are hurting for customers.

Thank you for your work,
Kathleen Herzig
Campton Resident

Kathleen (Katie) Herzig, Ph.D.

Pronouns: she/her/hers

Clinical Psychologist

Associate Professor

To make appointments: <https://tinyurl.com/DrHerzig>

For zoom meetings: <https://plymouthstate.zoom.us/j/9394047987>

For zoom classes: See the top of your course Moodle page for zoom link.

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:59 PM
From: Kathleen Herzig
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 12:10:28 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: In support of HB65
Importance: Normal

Dear Commerce Committee members,

I'm writing to implore you to please vote in favor of HB65. As a person with food allergies, I was shocked to learn that policies for restaurants to inform consumers about potential allergens in their food was not already a law in NH. It makes me much less likely to order food from NH's restaurants at a time I know they are hurting for customers.

Thank you for your work,
Kathleen Herzig
Campton Resident

Kathleen (Katie) Herzig, Ph.D.

Pronouns: she/her/hers

Clinical Psychologist

Associate Professor

To make appointments: <https://tinyurl.com/DrHerzig>

For zoom meetings: <https://plymouthstate.zoom.us/j/9394047987>

For zoom classes: See the top of your course Moodle page for zoom link.

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:59 PM
From: Stefanie Dube
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 11:38:50 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: I support HB65-Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Hello,

First of all I just want to take the time to thank you each one of you individually for what do for this State, City and or Town.

My name is Stefanie Dube (Graves) my family has resided in Bow for years and my Father was Deputy Chief for the town for 25 years.

I just want to pass along that I am in support for HB65- Rachel's Law and I hope you are too.
Not for just for Rachel's traffic situation but for all the others that could happen if we don't get this rectified.

Thank you so much for your time. Please stay safe and healthy.

Stefanie Dube

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:59 PM
From: Stefanie Dube
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 11:38:50 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: I support HB65-Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Hello,

First of all I just want to take the time to thank you each one of you individually for what do for this State, City and or Town.

My name is Stefanie Dube (Graves) my family has resided in Bow for years and my Father was Deputy Chief for the town for 25 years.

I just want to pass along that I am in support for HB65- Rachel's Law and I hope you are too.
Not for just for Rachel's traffic situation but for all the others that could happen if we don't get this rectified.

Thank you so much for your time. Please stay safe and healthy.

Stefanie Dube

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:59 PM
From: Gabrielle Alleva
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 8:51:24 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Rachels Law
Importance: Normal

Hello,

I attended UNH my freshman year of college. I have since transferred to UMass, but I still remember the time I heard about Rachel's death. I did not know her, I only knew distant friends of hers. But, her story hit me to the core.

My younger brother went into anaphylactic shock the very first time he tried peanut butter when he was a 1 year old. Since that day, my brother has developed numerous other allergies. Both food and environment allergies. Among them, sesame seeds, which still do not have to be listed on any food product labels.

My father refuses to believe allergies are real and continuously tries to give my brother peanuts and tree nuts. However, my mother and I are in a constant state of fear that something could happen to him. Many restaurants we have visited have told us they have never heard of a food allergy, or that they can't accommodate us. Most often than not, we are told they will not guarantee anything but they will "try their best". However, there have been many times where my brother is served an ice cream dipped in nuts or a hamburger with a sesame bun. (Although many restaurants think that it is acceptable to just scrape off said nuts or sesame seeds, it is not.) This past year I worked at a restaurant and got firsthand experience of the lack of training and effort that goes into preparing food for an allergy. I would never allow my brother to dine at the place I worked at.

I am writing to you today to share my personal story of living with a loved one who has a food allergy. Many people like to joke that people with food allergies are "soft" or say that "it's not real". But, if you have anyone in your life that is deathly allergic to a food item, you know it is very much real. I worry about my brother at school, at friends, at restaurants, even at home sometimes because you just don't know what M&M package could contain a stray tree nut.

I support HB65- Rachel's Law. On February 16th, I hope you think of someone in your life with an allergy, think of me, and most importantly think of Rachel.

Thank you for your time.

--
Gabrielle Alleva
978-870-3751
gabbyalleva@gmail.com

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:59 PM
From: Michelle P
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 7:53:02 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Support HB65 Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Hello,

I am writing to you today in support of HB65, and to encourage you to support it as well because it is the right thing to do.

HB65 is what we fondly refer to as Rachel's Law. Rachel Hunger was taken from us far too early after she went into anaphylaxis shock and passed away as a result of consuming food that had peanut oil in it. Rachel was allergic to peanuts and because the peanut oil ingredient had not been disclosed, she lost her life. We are not asking to move mountains. We are asking you to consider to support a bill that will help educate the public around food allergies and will protect our loved ones from a fate like Rachel's.

Rachel was my daughter's daycare teacher. She was so sweet and had a love for life that was unrivaled. She was a free spirit. Losing Rachel to something as simple as a food allergy is frustrating and could have been prevented. However, we can't dwell on what happened but rather look forward and do our best to educate everyone on food allergies and demand those allergens be disclosed on menus. We aren't making life difficult for anyone. We are trying to SAVE lives.

Maybe your grandkid has a food allergy. Maybe it's a friend. Or maybe you have one yourself. Food allergies are common, and the fear around exposure and death is real. Please sign this bill into law to help protect your and our loved ones. And because it is the right thing to do.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Michelle Pacilli
Hopkinton, NH

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:59 PM
From: Michelle P
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 7:53:02 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Support HB65 Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Hello,

I am writing to you today in support of HB65, and to encourage you to support it as well because it is the right thing to do.

HB65 is what we fondly refer to as Rachel's Law. Rachel Hunger was taken from us far too early after she went into anaphylaxis shock and passed away as a result of consuming food that had peanut oil in it. Rachel was allergic to peanuts and because the peanut oil ingredient had not been disclosed, she lost her life. We are not asking to move mountains. We are asking you to consider to support a bill that will help educate the public around food allergies and will protect our loved ones from a fate like Rachel's.

Rachel was my daughter's daycare teacher. She was so sweet and had a love for life that was unrivaled. She was a free spirit. Losing Rachel to something as simple as a food allergy is frustrating and could have been prevented. However, we can't dwell on what happened but rather look forward and do our best to educate everyone on food allergies and demand those allergens be disclosed on menus. We aren't making life difficult for anyone. We are trying to SAVE lives.

Maybe your grandkid has a food allergy. Maybe it's a friend. Or maybe you have one yourself. Food allergies are common, and the fear around exposure and death is real. Please sign this bill into law to help protect your and our loved ones. And because it is the right thing to do.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Michelle Pacilli
Hopkinton, NH

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:54:59 PM
From: M Talwani
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 4:36:34 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: In support of HB65. Will testify at hearing on 2/16 at 9:30
Importance: Normal

Dear House Commerce Committee,

I am happy to see "Rachel's Law," House Bill 65 back on the docket and plan to attend via zoom the hearing on 2/16 at 9:30 a.m.. As a mother of a 18 year old daughter who has a life threatening tree nut allergy I am impassioned to encourage you continue your work to get the bill passed.

My daughter, Hope Talwani, was diagnosed with the allergy when she was in second grade after having an allergic reaction to butter pecan ice cream. Ever since then she's carried two epi pens at all times. Even through the anxiety she deals with every day about eating or drinking the wrong things, she's learned to become a good self advocate by reading menus, food labels, washing her hands often, and telling servers that she has a life threatening allergy. Even though she emphatically states her allergy to servers, more times than not, the server looks at her confused and not confident in their answer about how the meal will be prepared or even what is in it. And, many times, they answer, "You should be fine" or "I don't think that has nuts in it." Hearing those words and seeing the confused/not confident response heightens anxiety and then puts my daughter in a place to push back (very hard to do as a teenager!) and ask for the server to get clarification from the cook and/or manager. And, even when that information comes back, the trust is already broken and many times the food that is served is not even eaten for fear of literally going into anaphylactic shock and the possibility of dying.

On December 30, 2018, my daughter and a friend went to Dairy Queen on Loudon Road in Concord, NH. My daughter doesn't go to traditional ice cream restaurants for fear of cross contamination of the scoops between each ice cream, But, Dairy Queen was always her favorite ice cream store because the ice cream came out a cleaned machine, or at least that was what was supposed to happen. Even after telling the server about her allergy and them writing down that she was allergic to nuts, she was served an ice cream that was cross contaminated with nuts and had an anaphylactic reaction. Two epi pens later, she ended her in

the emergency room at Concord Hospital. In talking to the management at Dairy Queen, after the fact, they had no consistent practice of training their staff on appropriate ways of cleaning the ice cream machines, wiping down counters, and not cross contaminating foods. Had there been education and training on an ongoing basis, this would never have happened. In this instance, Hope was "lucky" to not have died.

This has got to end. We need restaurants to step up and get trained. They are dealing with people's lives.

Please let me know how I can be of help in getting this bill passed. I'm willing to do whatever it takes.

Thank you for your work.

Best regards,
Michele Talwani
19-3 Cabernet Drive
Concord, NH 03303
603-254-7841

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:19 AM
From: elisabeth rousseau
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 10:05:43 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65 - Rachel's Law OUGHT TO PASS
Importance: Normal

Good afternoon,

In support of the importance of Food Allergy Awareness, my dear friend Rachel Hunger and the Hunger Family, I am reaching out to you to say that HB65 - Rachel's Law OUGHT TO PASS.

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:19 AM
From: Lejune, Samantha L
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:44:25 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65- Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Good morning,

I am emailing to request that HB65 – Rachel’s Law **ought to pass**. This is an important bill that is needed!

Thank you,

Samantha LeJune
J.D. Candidate, Class of 2022
University of North Carolina School of Law
slejune@live.unc.edu
(713) 598-2103

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:19 AM
From: Chris Remillard
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:17:41 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65 - "Rachel's Law"
Importance: Normal

To Whom It May Concern:

House Bill 65, otherwise known as "Rachel's Law," is common sense legislation that would require food service establishments to create food allergy awareness procedures, including printing menus and menu boards notifying customers of their obligation to inform their server of their food allergies and training staff members as food protection managers.

In light of Rachel's tragic passing in 2019, I strongly support this bill and ask that it OUGHT TO PASS. This bill would help promote consumer safety and ensure that no family has to go through what the Hunger family has tragically endured.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Christopher Remillard
Concord, NH

Sent from my iPhone.

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:19 AM
From: Ellen
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 1:39:03 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members: I am writing in support of HB65, Rachels's Law in order to save lives. It is a law that is beneficial for customers as well as food serving establishments, and I feel that it is needed. Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation.

Ellen Lonergan
58 Banjo Drive
Thornton NH


Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:19 AM
From: stephanieeee22668@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 8:40:00 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Rachel's law HB65
Importance: Normal

Good morning,

I am writing to express that I am in support of HB65 (Rachel's Law)

Thank you,

Stephanie Landry
From Barnstead, NH

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:19 AM
From: Marcie Kazanowski
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 7:22:15 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65 - Letter of Support
Importance: Normal
Attachments: Rachel's Law #2.docx ;

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:19 AM
From: Nataya Sylvestre
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 6:56:01 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: NH House Remote Testify: 9:30 am - HB65 in House Commerce and Consumer Affairs
Importance: Normal

My name is Nataya Sylvestre and I am in favor of HB65 (Rachel's Law) passing. I think we as a community should be doing everything we can to try and accommodate those with allergies. If that means having to put a warning on all menus that clients need to let the server know about existing allergies and having someone who is trained in allergy awareness/ food safety why wouldn't be do that if it could save lives? Rachel was the best kind of person. She supported those she loved and was passionate about so many things. Had she not passed unexpectedly she is the type of person to cure incurable illnesses like cancer. This bill can honor her memory and help protect all the Rachel's of the world. Thank you for your time. I hope you heavily consider what this bill means to those that love and knew Rachel and to all those with food allergies themselves.

Nataya Sylvestre

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:19 AM
From: Beckgang94@comcast.net
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 10:52:42 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Rachel's Law-HB65
Importance: Normal

Hello,

My name is Kathy Beckett. I live in Concord, N.H. and my family and I have been long time friends of the Hungers. Rachel was my youngest daughter Emily's very first best friend. We would get together at either our house or the Hungers virtually every weekend for cookouts, would trick or treat together every year and even did some family vacations camping and going to Santa's Village. They were friends, but they always felt like our extended family. When I heard the devastating news of what happened to Rachel, I cried for weeks and felt like a piece of my heart had been ripped out. I can't even imagine the pain that Dave, Jen, and their family have gone through. It breaks my heart... and what makes it all the more sad, is that this could have been prevented! Had the menu been marked with a comment next to the egg roll simply stating "contains peanut paste," I truly believe that Rachel would still be here with us today. It amazes me that with all the peanut allergies and how fatal some can be, that this restaurant made a severely poor judgment in not making that live saving notation. And unfortunately, they're not the only ones.

I think what amazes me more is that it is not a requirement for menus to have allergy information within their menus. That is why I implore you to pass this Bill. We have already lost Rachel. What if your son, daughter, parent, niece, nephew....any family member had a food allergy? Wouldn't you want them to know that what they choose to eat will be safe and not be their last meal? To me, there should be no question. Please do what is right, and pass this Bill.

Thank you,
Kathy Beckett

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:19 AM
From: Heather Gass
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 9:23:21 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65: Testimony
Importance: Normal

February 15, 2021

Heather Gass
71 Peaslee Rd.
Merrimack, NH 03054

Dear Chairman Hunt, and Members of the Commerce and Consumer Affairs Committee,

I am writing to express my support for HB65, an act requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures.

I have a severe allergy to tree nuts, and my 2-year old son has multiple life-threatening food allergies as well. This bill is important to my family and I because of the near-fatal reaction I experienced at a Nashua restaurant. I ordered a meal I had eaten at least a dozen times before at this restaurant, but this time it contained my allergen and I quickly went into anaphylaxis. My husband had our server check with the kitchen, and found out they had substituted an ingredient with a sauce containing my allergen. I was rushed to the ER and thankfully I recovered. But this near-death experience has changed my dining habits completely.

That was the most severe reaction I've had to date, but I have had many mild reactions at restaurants here in our state, even when I declare my allergen and ask for my food to be prepared without it. Many servers and cooks just don't understand the severity of food allergies, and that even the smallest amount of an allergen could cause a severe reaction.

I am not alone in my experiences dining out with allergies. According to research conducted by McKinsey and Company last year, more than 32 million Americans suffer from life-threatening food allergies¹ (roughly one in ten Americans). For New Hampshire, that means more than 131,000 of us have life threatening food allergies like my son and I.

Supporting this bill doesn't only make sense from a health standpoint, but also from an economic one. Research conducted by the National Restaurant Association in 2012, found that during normal times, restaurants in the US lose approximately \$45 million per week in potential sales² to food allergy families because, as I and many other food allergy families know, we aren't going to visit a restaurant if there is potential for a serious allergic reaction. That means critical revenue goes elsewhere, like to Massachusetts where there is already a law similar to HB65, when those dollars could have been spent in New Hampshire's restaurants if we had a better policy of informing customers about potential allergens and making sure staff are trained on how to keep customers safe.

A two-year study recently published in the January 2021 edition of the *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology: In Practice*, found that restaurants are the second most common location for food allergy reactions, that Cafes, fast food establishments, Asian restaurants, ice cream parlors and bars were the kinds of restaurants where most reactions happened, and that most notably, reactions were higher for adults than children by a more than 2 to 1 margin, 31% to 13%³. The best solution to minimizing potential reactions is two-fold: a customer informs the wait staff up front about their allergies and the menu clearly includes allergen information as well.

There are already a small number of allergy-friendly restaurants in New Hampshire like 110 Grill, Chipotle Mexican Grill, SubZero Ice Cream, and Burton's Grill who have implemented training and safety protocols to accommodate customers with food allergies. These establishments benefit from their allergy policies and training by preventing harm to their clientele and gaining the loyal patronage of the food allergic community.

With other states like our neighbors in Massachusetts and Rhode Island already enacting similar laws, there are already ample resources available for implementing the requirements of this bill.

Thank you for reading my testimony, and I hope you will support HB65 to keep families like mine safe when dining out in New Hampshire.

Thank you,
Heather Gass
71 Peaslee Rd.
Merrimack, NH 03054

Sources

¹ "What is Food Allergy?", Food Allergy Research and Education, accessed 15 February 2021, <<https://www.foodallergy.org/resources/what-food-allergy>>

² "Food Allergies & Restaurants", Food Allergy Research and Education, accessed 15 February 2021, <<https://www.foodallergy.org/resources/restaurant-legislation-toolkit>>

³ "Characteristics of Food Allergic Reactions in United States Restaurants", Roxanne C. Oriel, M.D., et al., accessed 15 February 2021, <[https://www.jaci-inpractice.org/article/S2213-2198\(20\)31350-7/fulltext](https://www.jaci-inpractice.org/article/S2213-2198(20)31350-7/fulltext)>

Additional Resources:

- "Food Allergy Knowledge and Attitudes of Restaurant Managers and Staff: An EHS-Net Study", <<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5321626/>>
- "Food Allergy in Restaurants Work Group Report", <[https://www.jaci-inpractice.org/article/S2213-2198\(19\)30791-3/fulltext](https://www.jaci-inpractice.org/article/S2213-2198(19)30791-3/fulltext)>

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:19 AM
From: elisabeth rousseau
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 9:06:26 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: New Hampshire HB65
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members,

I encourage you to please vote in favor of NH HB65. The State of New Hampshire lacks formal regulations for restaurants regarding food allergies. This results in a failure to combat food allergy related health issues directly within restaurant settings or as a result of a restaurant service. Again, I am asking you to please consider voting for NH HB65. If passed, this bill will protect the rights of the citizens of New Hampshire through improving their ability to enjoy a meal at a restaurant without harmful repercussions. Let's take initiative.

Thank you for your consideration,
Elisabeth Rousseau

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:19 AM

From: Becca Weiss

Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 8:27:29 PM

To: ~House Commerce Committee

Subject: NH House Remote Testify: 9:30 am - HB65 in House Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Importance: Normal

Please please consider taking the first, small step in bringing awareness in restaurants to food allergies. My son, myself, and my husband all have food allergies. For the most part we don't want to go out to eat because we frequently feel like a nuisance to the public. I have a severe soy allergy and I cannot tell you the amount of times after reporting my allergy to a server that I have gotten the response "I'm pretty sure there isn't soy in that. Why would there be?" The lack of knowledge is shocking. If there was education and awareness and an expert on site, the response may be different.

I knew Rachel and she is/was an incredible person. It would be a disservice to her memory to not take action to try and make steps towards stopping another accidental death from food allergies.

Please consider supporting this bill. No one else deserves to die.

Becca Weiss

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:20 AM
From: Jane Segal
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 8:13:58 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65 Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Hello House of Commerce

My name is Jane Segal and the death of Rachel has really affected not only me but so many others. I have known Rachel since I was 13, she was 15. She has had such a big impact on my life and many others. From taking long walks in the woods, or just talking in the car; every moment was so special to me. Her passing affected everyone that was involved in her life. Only 1 in 1000th of a peanut is what it takes to kill someone with the terrible allergy. Imagine your throat closes up and lose all consciousness. This is how Rachel lived her last moments. In panic and terror. Rachel was such a sweet loving selfless girl. I could never imagine the worry and fear she must have felt before she lost consciousness. Her world went black and she closed her eyes for the last time. The food we buy in stores and restaurants should be required to be transparent about the ingredients used and the countless allergens they may contain. Would you feel comfortable shopping for your everyday groceries if the companies selling them refused to put that information on the item's packaging? I struggle with epilepsy and there are always flash warnings to prevent others like myself from having life threatening seizures. Why can't they do the same thing for people with food allergies? It would save so many lives if restaurants and companies put warnings on menus and packaging. Rachel passed because of lack of compassion and care of others. This could prevent hundreds or even thousands of deaths. I will always advocate to prevent the same accident that tragically took Rachel's precious life.

Sincerely,

Jane Segal
Resident of Bow, NH 03304

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:20 AM

From: Melanie Steenbeke

Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 8:04:10 PM

To: ~House Commerce Committee

Subject: NH House Remote Testify: 9:30 am - HB65 in House Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Importance: Normal

Hello,

I am a from Loudon NH. I am a family friend of the Hunger Family. I witnessed the suffering of this family while the waited and prayed for their baby girl to live. No family should ever have to go through this.

I support HB65!

Thank you


Melanie Steenbeke

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:20 AM
From: Melissa Zuccaro
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 8:03:55 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65
Importance: Normal

As a resident of Hudson, NH, I would much like to see Rachel's Law passed. Every person deserves to be able to eat meals out without fearing for their lives.

Sincerely,
Melissa & Jeffrey Zuccaro
1 Rosemary Ct
Hudson, NH 03051

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:20 AM
From: Rosemarie Rung
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 7:29:03 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Cc: Carrie Morris
Subject: HB65 Testimony
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
HB65_Testimony.pdf 

Dear Colleagues;

Please find attached my written testimony for introduction of HB65 tomorrow at 9:30 am. I look forward to seeing you.

Rosemarie Rung
NH State Representative
Merrimack (Hillsborough 21)
603.424.6664

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:20 AM
From: Riana Armstrong
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 7:15:07 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Support HB65
Importance: Normal

Good evening,
I am writing today to express my support of HB 65 (Rachel's Law).
Sincerely
Riana Armstrong
103 Broadway Ave
Manchester NH
03104

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:20 AM
From: smrackett@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 5:51:30 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Rachel's Law HB65
Importance: Normal

To whom it may concern,

I am IN SUPPORT of HB65 - Rachel's Law.

Suzanne Rackett
22 Cat Tail Circle
Rindge NH

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:20 AM
From: Jane WESCOMB
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 5:18:09 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65
Importance: Normal

Please understand the importance of this bill. It could save lives!
We are depending on you!!
Jane Wescomb
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:20 AM
From: Lacey Isabelle
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 5:13:19 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65-- Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Hello House Commerce and Consumer Affairs Committee

In spring of 2016 I was standing in line alphabetically at Concord High School's NH Scholar Awards Night. Despite struggling with an underlying mental illness, I strived for academic success.

During this time of my life I didn't have many friends. I was blessed to be standing beside Rachel Hunger, who quickly became my friend. Ironically enough, Rachel was also at a similar point in her life. After some small talk I found out two things 1. Both of our boyfriends played football together and 2. Rachel was extremely allergic to peanuts— something she always made sure to tell new people she met.

Come graduation time, Rachel and I were next to each other yet again. It was as if we were meant to be placed in each others lives at that exact moment. That summer we spent nearly every day together. Going on small hikes, long car rides listening to our favorite music, and supporting our boyfriends from the sidelines. Soon enough we were glued to each others hip. By the end of summer Rachel suggested I come work for her mom, Jenn, at Little Sprouts, the same childcare she worked at.

Through my experience working with Rachel at Little Sprouts, she taught me how to be dedicated, how to care, how to comfort, how to forgive, and most importantly how to love. If you were lucky enough to know Rachel you would know that she was a beautiful young woman— but her beauty went far past her physical features. The beauty she held in her heart was something special, something most people lack. She spoke with wisdom beyond her years and was the most considerate and compassionate person. Rachel became my best friend, my person. She was the one to dig me out of my depression, despite dealing with her own. She was a selfless, one of a kind friend.

Going to colleges in two different states was so hard. Even though we were hundreds of miles away from each other, Rachel always stayed in my life, whether it was hilarious snapchats, hour long FaceTime calls, our driving 2 hours to steal me from my campus and bring me back home to Concord— Rachel was that type of friend— a forever friend. We were so close you could consider us telepathic twins. We would laugh the same, speak the same, had similar interests, but one thing I keep close to me is how we would always accidentally match. Even while separated hundreds of miles apart.

My favorite memories were the ones spent with Rachel. She brought me a sense of peace and happiness like no other.

My heart shattered and my world crumbled on April 19th, 2019— the day Rachel went into anaphylaxis after eating an egg roll containing 2% peanut paste. For someone so brilliantly smart and aware of her food allergy, this was a horrific accident. I would never wish the amount of pain and trauma that myself and her loved ones feel on any other individual.

I ask for your support. By passing HB65 and requiring licensed food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures, so many other lives will be saved. Not only saving lives of those with food allergies, but saving so many other families, friends, and communities from excruciating heartbreak and trauma. No other individual or families deserve to go through such a horrific event. Other countries such as Mexico and Costa Rica already have these laws in place considering how much more prominent food allergies have become. Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Rhode Island, and Virginia are the only states in the United States to have restaurant laws. Rachel always taught me to be confident and put up a good fight for whatever you believe in. This is my fight to help do what's right. It's time to #BeTheMiracle, pass this bill, and work on becoming the next state to have legislations related to restaurants and customers with food allergies. Lets all help to make the world a healthier and safer place.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Lacey Isabelle
Deerfield NH resident

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:20 AM
From: Natasha Perron
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 5:08:00 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65
Importance: Normal

Good Evening,

I show my support for passing HB65. Please consider the profound impact this bill could have on saving lives. No family should ever experience the pain and loss the Hunger family endured with the tragic death of their beautiful child. The steps we can take today to prevent future loss is essential in the preventive measures that must be taken to ensure this never happens again. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Natasha Perron
413 Rt 129
Loudon NH 3307

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:20 AM
From: Colleen Kennedy
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 4:58:57 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65 - Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Good Evening,

I am writing to share my support of HB65- Rachel's Law. The peace of mind that this law can bring to so many families is worthwhile in itself, along with the lifesaving impact it can have. I went to a restaurant in Concord a few years ago and had an allergic reaction to pine nuts that I was unaware of in my meal. Thankfully my allergic reaction was mild but another person, or family, or child could have had a much different outcome. I fully support Rachel's Law and the lives that it could save. Families deserve to feel safe dining out with their families regardless of allergies.

I hope you have a wonderful night.

Colleen Ortakales
Bow, NH

HB65 - Rachel's Law

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:20 AM
From: Emily
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 4:50:24 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Please vote in favor of HB65 tomorrow
Importance: Normal

Good evening,

I'm writing to ask you to please vote in favor of HB65 tomorrow. This bill is being proposed for my cousin Rachel, who sadly lost her life way too young due to eating food she was unaware had peanuts in it, despite being vigilant with her allergy precautions. Please help ensure this doesn't happen to anyone else. Thank you so much.

Emily Larson
Concord, NH

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:20 AM
From: Mary Baillargeon
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 12:58:12 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Support for HB65 / personal testimony
Importance: Normal

Hello,

My name is Mary Baillargeon, from Manchester.

I would like to provide some personal testimony in support of HB65

My son is allergic to peanuts and tree nuts. There is no cure. Like all those with food allergies, he is at risk of a fatal reaction from even a trace amount of his allergen.

Dining out is something we do rarely with him, as there is huge variability in understanding of food allergies.

We have tried to go by the online menus for chains - which list allergens, only to be told in the restaurant by the manager and server that no, those items are not actually safe. We have tried calling ahead during non busy times, told certain items are safe, then when arriving at restaurant again being told things aren't safe. Certainly we prefer if any doubt servers/management tell us so, however the inconsistencies are frustrating. Imagine wanting to attend a family birthday celebration, only to find out at the table you can't eat anything. Multiple times I have had servers tell me no nuts are used, when we then have to point out menu items that clearly include nuts to try and clarify. Multiple times I have also been asked by employees what a tree nut is.

It is impossible to have any level of comfort that informing staff of allergies will help, when they often have little understanding of allergies, their severity, or how things like cross contamination play a role.

Restaurants are a common location for allergic reactions.

<https://www.allergicliving.com/2021/01/17/allergic-reactions-in-restaurants-are-common-vet-training-lags/>

Food allergies are only increasing - in adults as well as children.

The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention reports that the prevalence of food allergy in children increased by 50 percent between 1997 and 2011.

This is an issue that will continue to impact more and more people in NH. It can have fatal consequences.

We believe this bill is an important step to protect and improve the lives of those suffering with food allergies.

Thank you,

Mary Baillargeon

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:20 AM
From: Terri Tole
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 10:49:02 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65 - Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members,

I am sending this e-mail to show my support for HB65, Rachel's Law. I myself have a daughter with a Tree Nut allergy which can put her life in danger. These allergies are becoming more common so it is time to protect our children before more lives are taken.

Thank you,

Terri Tole
18 Ryan Circle, Campton, NH 03223
603-921-0053

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:20 AM
From: Kendra Middleton
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 10:39:51 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65
Importance: Normal

To whom it may concern,

My name is Kendra Middleton and I requested a few minutes to speak tomorrow on HB65. I will be speaking on Rachel Hungers last few minutes of life, what it is like living in a world with a deadly food allergy, and how many adults and children statistically live with deadly food allergies.

Best,

Kendra Middleton,
She/Hers

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:20 AM
From: Caitlin Estee
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 1:55:17 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Re: In support of HB65
Importance: Normal

My residence is 76 Wethersfield Drive
Northfield, NH 03276

Sent from my iPhone

> On Feb 14, 2021, at 10:18 AM, Caitlin Estee <caitlinestee@yahoo.com> wrote:

>

> To Whom It May Concern,

>

> I'm reaching out to voice my support for Rachel's Law (HB65). As a mom, teacher, and a family member of a Concord restaurant owner, I believe it is such a simple request that would keep so many people safe. There is no negative affect on businesses.

>

> Thank you for your time and consideration,

>

> Caitlin Rackett

>

> Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:20 AM
From: Dedra Middleton
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 11:57:07 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Support HB65
Importance: Normal

Committee Members,

I have signed up to speak in support of HB65 at 9:30am on February 16, 2021 and as requested, I'm emailing you my written testimony.

Although I am not a New Hampshire resident, I'm writing to you in support of passing HB65 which will mandate all restaurants to have a designated employee on the premises during all operating hours who has been certified with regards to food allergies. Not only should this law be passed in the beautiful state of New Hampshire, it should be Nationwide and you have an opportunity to make a difference starting in your state.

My daughter was with her best friend Rachel Hunger on the night she ate an egg roll not knowing it contained peanut paste and went into cardiac arrest, passing away 18 days later.

It's too late to help Rachel but this bill could make a difference, so other friends and family members do not have to suffer the loss of a loved one.

In October of 2019, I was at breakfast with my family members, and my seven-year-old nephew has tree nut allergies. The first thing I stated to the waitress was that "we have a tree nut allergy" pointing to my nephew, she replied "no problem the only thing we have are pecans and they are separated for the other food items. Not even five minutes later, she brings three containers of syrup for the pancakes my nephew ordered. We are all talking, and Cael is reading the container labels and I hear him say "pecan". I picked up the syrup containers and approached the waitress pointing out the pecan syrup and explaining cross-contamination with food allergies can be fatal to people. I know she did not do this intentionally and it seems like an innocent mistake to some people but not to a person living with a food allergy. Having a designated restaurant employee trained regarding food allergies can prevent things like this happening in restaurants, it will save lives.

Make a difference, "Be the Miracle" and pass HB65.

Sincerely,
Dedra Middleton

This email and any attachments are intended only for the use of the addressee, and may contain information that is privileged or confidential. The information contained in this email is for informational purposes only and does not constitute a commitment or agreement by RPT Realty or its affiliates.

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:20 AM
From: Caitlin Estee
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 10:18:38 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: In support of HB65
Importance: Normal

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm reaching out to voice my support for Rachel's Law (HB65). As a mom, teacher, and a family member of a Concord restaurant owner, I believe it is such a simple request that would keep so many people safe. There is no negative affect on businesses.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Caitlin Rackett

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:21 AM
From: George Tarwo
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 8:37:49 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65- Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Good morning House Commerce Committee,

I'd like to introduce myself— my name is George Tarwo. The reason why I write you today is to tell you I'm in full support of this bill and pray you will all have kind hearts and will choose to support this bill as well. I live in Concord NH and I have lived in here for 18 years. I came to Concord when I was a refugee from Liberia. I went to Concord High School with Rachel. She was a very kind person with a mindset of "if you do good, good will come back". I'd like to hope that the passing of this bill will become the 'good' that will come back to her. She always made sure students at Concord High felt welcomed and appreciated. Rachel became very close with my girlfriend in 2016, eventually become best friends. Her death has hit her really hard and most of you may know handling death isn't easy. Although, maybe some of you have been fortunate enough to avoid this type of pain and heartbreak, especially if it could have been prevented. By passing HB65, you can all help to #BeTheMiracle and prevent this horrible accident from happening to others. One preventable life lost is one too many.

Thank you for taking your time to read and consider passing this bill.

Respectfully,
George Tarwo

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:21 AM
From: Jennifer Lemieux
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 3:05:59 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65
Importance: Normal

Dear Representatives,

My name is Jennifer Lemieux and I am writing to you today in regards to House Bill 65 requiring all restaurants in NH to have a certified food safety person on duty during all operating hours. They will be trained with regard to food allergy safety.

Unfortunately, far too many people do not understand the seriousness of food allergies. I admit I was one of those people until the day my friend's daughter passed away from a severe allergic reaction to peanuts. I had the pleasure of working with Rachel Hunger at Little Sprouts in Bow, NH. We all knew she had a peanut and soy allergy and had been exposed a few times. Each time she was able to take some Benadryl and be fine. Then one day she unknowingly ate an eggroll that was made with peanut paste at a local restaurant near her college. This time Benadryl as well as two Epi-pen injections did not save her and she went into cardiac arrest and lost oxygen to her brain. The brain damage was so extensive, she could no longer sustain life.

I believe that if this restaurant had a certified food safety person, Rachel may still be with us today. My hope is that no other family would have to lay their loved one to rest for something that is so preventable.

I ask that you please vote yes on the bill to help protect the thousands of people that suffer from food allergies. Thank you for your consideration.

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:21 AM
From: Kathleen Herzig
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 12:10:28 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: In support of HB65
Importance: Normal

Dear Commerce Committee members,

I'm writing to implore you to please vote in favor of HB65. As a person with food allergies, I was shocked to learn that policies for restaurants to inform consumers about potential allergens in their food was not already a law in NH. It makes me much less likely to order food from NH's restaurants at a time I know they are hurting for customers.

Thank you for your work,
Kathleen Herzig
Campton Resident

Kathleen (Katie) Herzig, Ph.D.

Pronouns: she/her/hers

Clinical Psychologist

Associate Professor

To make appointments: <https://tinyurl.com/DrHerzig>

For zoom meetings: <https://plymouthstate.zoom.us/j/9394047987>

For zoom classes: See the top of your course Moodle page for zoom link.

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:20 AM
From: joseph rackett jr
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 10:21:00 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Support HB65
Importance: Normal

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to show support for Rachel's Law (HB 65).

Thank you for your time,

Joseph Rackett Jr

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:43:21 AM
From: Stefanie Dube
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 11:38:50 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: I support HB65-Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Hello,

First of all I just want to take the time to thank you each one of you individually for what do for this State, City and or Town.

My name is Stefanie Dube (Graves) my family has resided in Bow for years and my Father was Deputy Chief for the town for 25 years.

I just want to pass along that I am in support for HB65- Rachel's Law and I hope you are too.
Not for just for Rachel's traffic situation but for all the others that could happen if we don't get this rectified.

Thank you so much for your time. Please stay safe and healthy.

Stefanie Dube

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:29 PM
From: John Fletcher
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 10:26:00 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Support for House Bill 65
Importance: Normal

Good morning,

My name is John Fletcher, I live in Bow, NH and am writing to express my support of HB 65. I am asking that you please vote "Ought To Pass without the proposed amendment".

As someone who suffers from food allergies myself, I believe this Bill would go a long way in heightening people's awareness of the issue and possibly save lives.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,

John Fletcher

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:29 PM
From: Chris Remillard
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:17:41 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65 - "Rachel's Law"
Importance: Normal

To Whom It May Concern:

House Bill 65, otherwise known as "Rachel's Law," is common sense legislation that would require food service establishments to create food allergy awareness procedures, including printing menus and menu boards notifying customers of their obligation to inform their server of their food allergies and training staff members as food protection managers.

In light of Rachel's tragic passing in 2019, I strongly support this bill and ask that it OUGHT TO PASS. This bill would help promote consumer safety and ensure that no family has to go through what the Hunger family has tragically endured.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Christopher Remillard
Concord, NH

Sent from my iPhone.

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:30 PM
From: Chris Remillard
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:17:41 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65 - "Rachel's Law"
Importance: Normal

To Whom It May Concern:

House Bill 65, otherwise known as "Rachel's Law," is common sense legislation that would require food service establishments to create food allergy awareness procedures, including printing menus and menu boards notifying customers of their obligation to inform their server of their food allergies and training staff members as food protection managers.

In light of Rachel's tragic passing in 2019, I strongly support this bill and ask that it OUGHT TO PASS. This bill would help promote consumer safety and ensure that no family has to go through what the Hunger family has tragically endured.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Christopher Remillard
Concord, NH

Sent from my iPhone.

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:30 PM
From: Chris Remillard
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:17:41 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65 - "Rachel's Law"
Importance: Normal

To Whom It May Concern:

House Bill 65, otherwise known as "Rachel's Law," is common sense legislation that would require food service establishments to create food allergy awareness procedures, including printing menus and menu boards notifying customers of their obligation to inform their server of their food allergies and training staff members as food protection managers.

In light of Rachel's tragic passing in 2019, I strongly support this bill and ask that it OUGHT TO PASS. This bill would help promote consumer safety and ensure that no family has to go through what the Hunger family has tragically endured.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Christopher Remillard
Concord, NH

Sent from my iPhone.

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:30 PM
From: Jennifer Lemieux
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 8:25:56 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB 65 Rachel's law
Importance: Normal

Dear respected representatives,
Tomorrow you will be voting on HB-65, Rachel's law and I am writing to you in favor of this law. I knew Rachel for 11 years; I watched her grow over the years and become an intelligent, thoughtful young woman. Her mom owns the childcare center I work at and she was 10 years old when I began working here. When Rachel was old enough, she started working here too. She always had a peanut allergy and we all knew about it. She would sometimes have mild reactions while here at work but I never thought of her allergy as something serious. I really wasn't that knowledgeable about food allergies. It wasn't until Rachel unknowingly ate an egg roll with peanut paste at a restaurant she frequented often and suffered a severe anaphylaxis reaction that led to her death, that I realized that I was greatly misinformed about the severity of food allergies. It is clear that there is a lot of people that are unaware of what can happen when they are nonchalant about food allergies and that is why we want this bill to pass. We want restaurant owners and employees to be properly trained so maybe tragedies like Rachel's will happen less or not at all. I know at the last session someone said "Maybe people with severe food allergies should stay home." That is alienating a large population of people and it is not fair to them. A study has been found that peanut allergies alone affect over 4.6 million adults in the US. So again, I urge you to vote in favor of HB 65 to honor Rachel and help keep millions of people safer when they dine out.
Thank you for taking the time to read this.
Sincerely,
Jennifer Lemieux

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:30 PM
From: Jennifer Lemieux
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 8:25:56 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB 65 Rachel's law
Importance: Normal

Dear respected representatives,
Tomorrow you will be voting on HB-65, Rachel's law and I am writing to you in favor of this law. I knew Rachel for 11 years; I watched her grow over the years and become an intelligent, thoughtful young woman. Her mom owns the childcare center I work at and she was 10 years old when I began working here. When Rachel was old enough, she started working here too. She always had a peanut allergy and we all knew about it. She would sometimes have mild reactions while here at work but I never thought of her allergy as something serious. I really wasn't that knowledgeable about food allergies. It wasn't until Rachel unknowingly ate an egg roll with peanut paste at a restaurant she frequented often and suffered a severe anaphylaxis reaction that led to her death, that I realized that I was greatly misinformed about the severity of food allergies. It is clear that there is a lot of people that are unaware of what can happen when they are nonchalant about food allergies and that is why we want this bill to pass. We want restaurant owners and employees to be properly trained so maybe tragedies like Rachel's will happen less or not at all. I know at the last session someone said "Maybe people with severe food allergies should stay home." That is alienating a large population of people and it is not fair to them. A study has been found that peanut allergies alone affect over 4.6 million adults in the US. So again, I urge you to vote in favor of HB 65 to honor Rachel and help keep millions of people safer when they dine out.
Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Lemieux

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:30 PM
From: Jennifer Lemieux
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 8:25:56 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB 65 Rachel's law
Importance: Normal

Dear respected representatives,
Tomorrow you will be voting on HB-65, Rachel's law and I am writing to you in favor of this law. I knew Rachel for 11 years; I watched her grow over the years and become an intelligent, thoughtful young woman. Her mom owns the childcare center I work at and she was 10 years old when I began working here. When Rachel was old enough, she started working here too. She always had a peanut allergy and we all knew about it. She would sometimes have mild reactions while here at work but I never thought of her allergy as something serious. I really wasn't that knowledgeable about food allergies. It wasn't until Rachel unknowingly ate an egg roll with peanut paste at a restaurant she frequented often and suffered a severe anaphylaxis reaction that led to her death, that I realized that I was greatly misinformed about the severity of food allergies. It is clear that there is a lot of people that are unaware of what can happen when they are nonchalant about food allergies and that is why we want this bill to pass. We want restaurant owners and employees to be properly trained so maybe tragedies like Rachel's will happen less or not at all. I know at the last session someone said "Maybe people with severe food allergies should stay home." That is alienating a large population of people and it is not fair to them. A study has been found that peanut allergies alone affect over 4.6 million adults in the US. So again, I urge you to vote in favor of HB 65 to honor Rachel and help keep millions of people safer when they dine out.
Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Lemieux

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:30 PM
From: John Fanaras
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 9:33:27 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB 65 (Rachel's Law)
Importance: Normal

Hello,

My name is John Fanaras, and I am in support of HB 65 (Rachel's Law).

Thank you,
John Fanaras

3 Longview Drive Bow, NH 03304

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:30 PM
From: Kristen Janowicz
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 12:13:50 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

To Whom It May Concern,

I am in support of HB 65 (Rachel's Law). I believe this law will help protect individuals with food allergies when out dining.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kristen Janowicz
6 Palomino Place
Plymouth, NH 03264

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:30 PM
From: Kristen Janowicz
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 12:13:50 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

To Whom It May Concern,

I am in support of HB 65 (Rachel's Law). I believe this law will help protect individuals with food allergies when out dining.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kristen Janowicz
6 Palomino Place
Plymouth, NH 03264

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:30 PM
From: Daniel Estee
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 9:39:50 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB 65
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members of the House

I urge you to pass HB 65 as this is necessary to prevent unintended consequences from food allergies. My wife owns a restaurant in Concord and fully supports this bill. She recently had a customer allergic reaction which would have been prevented if customer informed staff of allergy. Thank you for your consideration.

Daniel Estee
Jane Valliere
8 Surrey Coach Lane
Bow, NH 03304

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:30 PM
From: Daniel Estee
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 9:39:50 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB 65
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members of the House

I urge you to pass HB 65 as this is necessary to prevent unintended consequences from food allergies. My wife owns a restaurant in Concord and fully supports this bill. She recently had a customer allergic reaction which would have been prevented if customer informed staff of allergy. Thank you for your consideration.

Daniel Estee
Jane Valliere
8 Surrey Coach Lane
Bow, NH 03304

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:30 PM
From: Julia Chase
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 8:17:46 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Good Morning,

I am writing to enthusiastically share my support for the HB 65 (Rachel's Law) bill. This simple modification to procedures at restaurants can save the lives of patrons with allergies. As a mother, I cannot imagine the pain that Rachel's family is going through. If this pain can be avoided for other families, why not take that step? If any of you are parents, please consider what it would be like to constantly worry about your child's allergies. Eating at a restaurant should not be a dangerous endeavor.

This should be an easy law to pass, let's work together to save lives.

Julia Chase

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:30 PM
From: Richelle Angeli
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 10:10:02 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Support HB 65
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members:

Our daughter has life threatening food allergies and has spent many times in an ambulance and ED due to mislabeling, non-labeling or cross contamination. It is so worrisome for her to eat out of the home. We urge you to support HB 65 as we support Rachel's Law. We will always be vigilant and we would love for more training and awareness in the community. We could use your support in this. Thank you kindly.

Sincerely,
Richelle Angeli
Gilford, NH

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:30 PM
From: Richelle Angeli
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 10:10:02 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Support HB 65
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members:

Our daughter has life threatening food allergies and has spent many times in an ambulance and ED due to mislabeling, non-labeling or cross contamination. It is so worrisome for her to eat out of the home. We urge you to support HB 65 as we support Rachel's Law. We will always be vigilant and we would love for more training and awareness in the community. We could use your support in this. Thank you kindly.

Sincerely,
Richelle Angeli
Gilford, NH

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:30 PM
From: Riana Armstrong
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 7:15:07 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Support HB65
Importance: Normal

Good evening,
I am writing today to express my support of HB 65 (Rachel's Law).
Sincerely
Riana Armstrong
103 Broadway Ave
Manchester NH
03104

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:30 PM
From: Riana Armstrong
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 7:15:07 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Support HB65
Importance: Normal

Good evening,
I am writing today to express my support of HB 65 (Rachel's Law).
Sincerely
Riana Armstrong
103 Broadway Ave
Manchester NH
03104

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:30 PM
From: Kelly Fanaras
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 6:55:13 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB 65
Importance: Normal

I support HB 65(Rachel's Law).

Kelly Fanaras
3 Longview Drive
Bow, NH

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:30 PM
From: Kelly Fanaras
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 6:55:13 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB 65
Importance: Normal

I support HB 65(Rachel's Law).

Kelly Fanaras
3 Longview Drive
Bow, NH

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:30 PM
From: Anna Tinkham
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 5:49:47 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB 65
Importance: Normal

Good evening

I am writing to acknowledge my support of HB 65. In an effort to save future lives.

Thank you,
Anna Lavoie
3 Colby Lane
Bow, NH 03304

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:30 PM
From: Anna Tinkham
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 5:49:47 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB 65
Importance: Normal

Good evening

I am writing to acknowledge my support of HB 65. In an effort to save future lives.

Thank you,
Anna Lavoie
3 Colby Lane
Bow, NH 03304

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:30 PM
From: Kathryn Racine
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 3:12:29 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB 65
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee,

I am writing in my support of Rachel's Law.

No person should have to fear death when going to a restaurant just because they have a food allergy.

There are so many people with severe food allergies who have to be on alert at all times due to the severity of their allergy.

The scary part about severe food allergies is that medicinal intervention does not always work during anaphylaxis which is what happened in Rachel's case.

If this law can help restaurants prevent situations like this in the future then it should be approved.

Thank you for your time,

Kathryn Racine

Sent from my iPad

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:30 PM
From: Lynn Tilden
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 1:03:03 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB 65 (Rachel's Law)
Importance: Normal

Dear Commerce and Consumer Affair Committee Member,

Thank you for taking the time to read this email. I'm in support with HB 65 (Rachel's Law). I believe that it is important that licenced food service establishments establish a uniformed front when addressing allergy awareness. I have worked in my fair share of restaurants and by establishing this law, not only will the customers feel more welcomed and comfortable but it also holds the restaurant accountable to keep a consistency in products used and with training more knowledge in food allergies.

I am a New Hampshire Resident:
My physical Address is:
52 Orris Road
Thornton NH 03258

Thank you for reading this,
Have a great day!

Lynn Tilden

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:31 PM
From: Lynn Tilden
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 1:03:03 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB 65 (Rachel's Law)
Importance: Normal

Dear Commerce and Consumer Affair Committee Member,

Thank you for taking the time to read this email. I'm in support with HB 65 (Rachel's Law). I believe that it is important that licenced food service establishments establish a uniformed front when addressing allergy awareness. I have worked in my fair share of restaurants and by establishing this law, not only will the customers feel more welcomed and comfortable but it also holds the restaurant accountable to keep a consistency in products used and with training more knowledge in food allergies.

I am a New Hampshire Resident:
My physical Address is:
52 Orris Road
Thornton NH 03258

Thank you for reading this,
Have a great day!

Lynn Tilden

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:31 PM
From: Julia Lessard
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 10:21:42 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Good Morning,

I am writing to enthusiastically share my support for the HB 65 (Rachel's Law) bill. This simple modification to procedures at restaurants can save the lives of patrons with allergies. As a mother, I cannot imagine the pain that Rachel's family is going through. If this pain can be avoided for other families, why not take that step? If any of you are parents, please consider what it would be like to constantly worry about your child's allergies. Eating at a restaurant should not be a dangerous endeavor.

This should be an easy law to pass, lets work together to help save lives.

Julia Chase

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:31 PM
From: Julia Lessard
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 10:21:42 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Rachel's Law
Importance: Normal

Good Morning,

I am writing to enthusiastically share my support for the HB 65 (Rachel's Law) bill. This simple modification to procedures at restaurants can save the lives of patrons with allergies. As a mother, I cannot imagine the pain that Rachel's family is going through. If this pain can be avoided for other families, why not take that step? If any of you are parents, please consider what it would be like to constantly worry about your child's allergies. Eating at a restaurant should not be a dangerous endeavor.

This should be an easy law to pass, lets work together to help save lives.

Julia Chase

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:31 PM
From: joseph rackett jr
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 10:21:00 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Support HB65
Importance: Normal

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to show support for Rachel's Law (HB 65).

Thank you for your time,

Joseph Rackett Jr

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:31 PM
From: joseph rackett jr
Sent: Sunday, February 14, 2021 10:21:00 AM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: Support HB65
Importance: Normal

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to show support for Rachel's Law (HB 65).

Thank you for your time,

Joseph Rackett Jr

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:31 PM
From: Jennifer Lemieux
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 3:05:59 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65
Importance: Normal

Dear Representatives,

My name is Jennifer Lemieux and I am writing to you today in regards to House Bill 65 requiring all restaurants in NH to have a certified food safety person on duty during all operating hours. They will be trained with regard to food allergy safety.

Unfortunately, far too many people do not understand the seriousness of food allergies. I admit I was one of those people until the day my friend's daughter passed away from a severe allergic reaction to peanuts. I had the pleasure of working with Rachel Hunger at Little Sprouts in Bow, NH. We all knew she had a peanut and soy allergy and had been exposed a few times. Each time she was able to take some Benadryl and be fine. Then one day she unknowingly ate an eggroll that was made with peanut paste at a local restaurant near her college. This time Benadryl as well as two Epi-pen injections did not save her and she went into cardiac arrest and lost oxygen to her brain. The brain damage was so extensive, she could no longer sustain life.

I believe that if this restaurant had a certified food safety person, Rachel may still be with us today. My hope is that no other family would have to lay their loved one to rest for something that is so preventable.

I ask that you please vote yes on the bill to help protect the thousands of people that suffer from food allergies. Thank you for your consideration.

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:31 PM
From: Jennifer Lemieux
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 3:05:59 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: HB65
Importance: Normal

Dear Representatives,

My name is Jennifer Lemieux and I am writing to you today in regards to House Bill 65 requiring all restaurants in NH to have a certified food safety person on duty during all operating hours. They will be trained with regard to food allergy safety.

Unfortunately, far too many people do not understand the seriousness of food allergies. I admit I was one of those people until the day my friend's daughter passed away from a severe allergic reaction to peanuts. I had the pleasure of working with Rachel Hunger at Little Sprouts in Bow, NH. We all knew she had a peanut and soy allergy and had been exposed a few times. Each time she was able to take some Benadryl and be fine. Then one day she unknowingly ate an eggroll that was made with peanut paste at a local restaurant near her college. This time Benadryl as well as two Epi-pen injections did not save her and she went into cardiac arrest and lost oxygen to her brain. The brain damage was so extensive, she could no longer sustain life.

I believe that if this restaurant had a certified food safety person, Rachel may still be with us today. My hope is that no other family would have to lay their loved one to rest for something that is so preventable.

I ask that you please vote yes on the bill to help protect the thousands of people that suffer from food allergies. Thank you for your consideration.

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:57:31 PM
From: M Talwani
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 4:36:34 PM
To: ~House Commerce Committee
Subject: In support of HB65. Will testify at hearing on 2/16 at 9:30
Importance: Normal

Dear House Commerce Committee,

I am happy to see "Rachel's Law," House Bill 65 back on the docket and plan to attend via zoom the hearing on 2/16 at 9:30 a.m.. As a mother of a 18 year old daughter who has a life threatening tree nut allergy I am impassioned to encourage you continue your work to get the bill passed.

My daughter, Hope Talwani, was diagnosed with the allergy when she was in second grade after having an allergic reaction to butter pecan ice cream. Ever since then she's carried two epi pens at all times. Even through the anxiety she deals with every day about eating or drinking the wrong things, she's learned to become a good self advocate by reading menus, food labels, washing her hands often, and telling servers that she has a life threatening allergy. Even though she emphatically states her allergy to servers, more times than not, the server looks at her confused and not confident in their answer about how the meal will be prepared or even what is in it. And, many times, they answer, "You should be fine" or "I don't think that has nuts in it." Hearing those words and seeing the confused/not confident response heightens anxiety and then puts my daughter in a place to push back (very hard to do as a teenager!) and ask for the server to get clarification from the cook and/or manager. And, even when that information comes back, the trust is already broken and many times the food that is served is not even eaten for fear of literally going into anaphylactic shock and the possibility of dying.

On December 30, 2018, my daughter and a friend went to Dairy Queen on Loudon Road in Concord, NH. My daughter doesn't go to traditional ice cream restaurants for fear of cross contamination of the scoops between each ice cream, But, Dairy Queen was always her favorite ice cream store because the ice cream came out a cleaned machine, or at least that was what was supposed to happen. Even after telling the server about her allergy and them writing down that she was allergic to nuts, she was served an ice cream that was cross contaminated with nuts and had an anaphylactic reaction. Two epi pens later, she ended her in

the emergency room at Concord Hospital. In talking to the management at Dairy Queen, after the fact, they had no consistent practice of training their staff on appropriate ways of cleaning the ice cream machines, wiping down counters, and not cross contaminating foods. Had there been education and training on an ongoing basis, this would never have happened. In this instance, Hope was "lucky" to not have died.

This has got to end. We need restaurants to step up and get trained. They are dealing with people's lives.

Please let me know how I can be of help in getting this bill passed. I'm willing to do whatever it takes.

Thank you for your work.

Best regards,
Michele Talwani
19-3 Cabernet Drive
Concord, NH 03303
603-254-7841

HB 65 - AS INTRODUCED

2021 SESSION

21-0041
08/06

HOUSE BILL

65

AN ACT

requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures.

SPONSORS:

Rep. Rung, Hills. 21; Rep. Guthrie, Rock. 13; Rep. J. Schmidt, Hills. 28; Rep. Marsh, Carr. 8; Rep. Cohen, Hills. 28

COMMITTEE:

Commerce and Consumer Affairs

ANALYSIS

This bill requires food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures.

Explanation:

Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.

Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struck through.~~]

Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty One

AN ACT requiring food service establishments to establish food allergy awareness procedures.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Short Title; Rachel's Law. This act shall be known as "Rachel's Law."

2 2 New Section; Food Allergy Awareness. Amend RSA 143-A by inserting after section 8 the
3 following new section:

4 143-A:8-a Food Allergy Awareness.

5 I. Each food service establishment licensed by the state under RSA 143-A:6 or by the
6 municipality in which it operates shall:

7 (a) Include on all menus and menu boards a notice to customers of the customer's
8 obligation to inform the server of his or her food allergies.

9 (b) Have a person in charge during all hours of operation trained and certified as a food
10 protection manager by a program approved by the department which includes training regarding
11 food allergens. Such person shall ensure that employees are properly informed of food safety issues,
12 including awareness of food allergies, as it is related to the employees' assigned duties.

13 II. A food service establishment that violates this section shall be subject to enforcement in
14 accordance with rules adopted under RSA 143-A:9, XI, or local ordinance relative to food service
15 licensure.

16 III. This section shall not apply to any food service establishment exempt from licensure or
17 inspection under RSA 143-A:5.

18 IV. Nothing in this section shall establish or affect any private cause of action. This section
19 shall not affect any other right or remedy available by statute.

20 3 Exemption for Food Service Establishments Regulated By Municipalities Limited. Amend
21 RSA 143-A:5, I-II to read as follows:

22 I. Food service establishments and retail food stores licensed by city health officers under
23 RSA 47:17, ***except with regard to the food allergy provisions of RSA 143-A:8-a.***

24 II. Food service establishments and retail food stores licensed by town health officers under
25 RSA 147:1, ***except with regard to the food allergy provisions of RSA 143-A:8-a.***

26 4 New Paragraph; Food Service Licensure; Rulemaking. Amend RSA 143-A:9 by inserting after
27 paragraph X the following new paragraph:

28 XI. Requirements for food allergy awareness under RSA 143-A:8-a.

29 5 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2022.