



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 2036</b>		DATE: <b>3/13/2024</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Emerging Issues</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>AMANDA KEARNS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>mandikearns@hotmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/12/2024 1:34 PM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**Statement of Support for Implementing Elijah's Law in Missouri:**As a devoted mother of a child with life-threatening allergies and a passionate advocate for food allergy awareness, I wholeheartedly endorse the implementation of Elijah's Law in the state of Missouri. This vital legislation has the power to save lives and ensure the safety of individuals with severe allergies, like my own child. Living with a food allergy can be a constant source of anxiety and fear, not just for those directly affected but for their families as well. Every meal, snack, and outing holds the potential for a life-threatening allergic reaction. Elijah's Law, with its emphasis on increasing awareness, education, and accessibility to life-saving epinephrine auto-injectors, provides a beacon of hope for families like mine across Missouri. By requiring childcare centers to be equipped with epinephrine auto-injectors and trained staff, Elijah's Law ensures that swift and effective treatment is available in the event of an allergic emergency. This proactive approach can mean the difference between life and death for individuals experiencing anaphylaxis. Furthermore, Elijah's Law serves as a powerful tool for raising awareness about the seriousness of food allergies and the importance of inclusion and accommodation in all aspects of daily life. By fostering a culture of understanding and support, we can create safer environments for all individuals with food allergies, allowing them to live their lives to the fullest without constant fear or restriction. As a mother who knows firsthand the challenges and dangers of life-threatening allergies, I urge lawmakers in Missouri to prioritize the passage and implementation of Elijah's Law. Together, we can take meaningful steps towards ensuring the safety and well-being of all individuals with food allergies, saving lives and empowering communities in the process.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>arniedienoff@yahoo.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/13/2024 11:58 PM</b>	
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I am in Support of this Bill. Isn't this already being done?



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>CHRIS GREENSTREET</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>cagreenstreet@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/13/2024 1:10 PM</b>
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**It is necessary that every effort be made to make children safe in child care. This includes being aware and following protocols concerning allergies. As a parent and public school teacher I have personal experiences with involving children with allergies and know this bill would increase awareness and practical protocols to protect children with allergies.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>ELIZABETH GREABE ANTONY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>ega@cacllc.biz</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/13/2024 7:42 AM</b>
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**I support this bill as a person who lives with food allergies and as a parent of child with food allergies.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JEN GREENSTREET</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>816-260-3187</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>JUST LIKE YOU FILMS</b>		TITLE: <b>FOUNDER/CEO/FILMMAKER</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>7301 MISSION RD., SUITE 321</b>			
CITY: <b>PRAIRIE VILLAGE</b>		STATE: <b>KS</b>	ZIP: <b>66208</b>
EMAIL: <b>jen@jlyfilms.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/12/2024 9:33 PM</b>	

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

My name is Jen Greenstreet, I submit this testimony to you not only as a concerned parent of a daughter who navigates daily life with severe food allergies but also as the filmmaker behind “May Contain: My Life,” a docudrama that illuminates the challenges and dangers faced by individuals with food allergies. Living with food allergies is a constant, high-stakes battle that affects every aspect of life, especially for children in childcare facilities. My daughter’s experience with tree nut allergies has opened my eyes to the critical need for stringent safety protocols and awareness in childcare settings. Every day, we live with the fear that a single exposure could lead to a life-threatening reaction, a fear shared by countless parents across our state and the nation. HB 2036, proposed by Representative Emily Weber, and HB 2364, proposed by Representative Anthony Ealy, are not just pieces of legislation to me; they represent a beacon of hope. These bills have the power to transform childcare facilities into safer spaces for children with food allergies, providing parents with the peace of mind that their children who cannot advocate for themselves are protected when they are most vulnerable. Through my work on “May Contain: My Life,” I’ve had the profound privilege of connecting with families navigating the same terrifying landscape of food allergies. Their stories, much like my own, underscore the urgent need for comprehensive training, clear communication, and emergency preparedness in every childcare setting. These are not optional luxuries; they are non-negotiable necessities that can save lives. I urge you to consider the real, human impact of food allergies on children and their families. By supporting HB 2036 and HB 2364, we have an opportunity to lead by example, to show that Missouri values the health and safety of its youngest residents. We can make our state a safer place for children like my daughter, who deserve the chance to learn and grow without the constant shadow of danger looming over them. In closing, I ask you to support these vital pieces of legislation. Let’s take a stand for the safety of all children and move forward with compassion, understanding, and action. Together, we can create a kinder world for those living with food allergies. Thank you for your time and consideration. Jen Greenstreet



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>KATHLEEN DONOVAN</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>kdonovan412@gmail.com</b>		ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/13/2024 5:31 AM</b>
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>MICHAEL G GREENSTREET</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>gstreets53@comcast.net</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/13/2024 1:08 PM</b>

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**As a parent, I wholeheartedly advocate for increased awareness of allergies in child care facilities. My child has severe allergies, and ensuring that caregivers are educated and vigilant about allergen exposure is paramount to their safety and well-being. By raising awareness and implementing appropriate protocols, we can create a safer environment for all children, prevent emergencies, and foster inclusivity for those with dietary restrictions. It's not just about my child; it's about promoting a culture of empathy, understanding, and proactive care for all children in childcare settings.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>THOMAS SILVERA</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>718-314-5720</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>ELIJAH-ALAVI FOUNDATION</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>997 NORTH 32ND STREET</b>			
CITY: <b>ALLENTOWN</b>		STATE: <b>PA</b>	ZIP: <b>18104</b>
EMAIL: <b>tsilvera@elijahalavifoundation.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>3/12/2024 6:07 PM</b>	

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Testimony in Support of HB2036 Weber - Elijah's Law for MissouriTo the Emerging Issue CommitteeMy name is Thomas Silvera, and I am writing to express my wholehearted support for HB2036, known as Elijah's Law, currently under consideration in the Missouri Legislature. As someone who has been deeply impacted by the ramifications of food allergies in childcare environments, I cannot overstate the importance of this legislation.HB2036 is more than just a bill; it is a beacon of hope for families across Missouri. It represents a commitment to the safety and well-being of our children, ensuring that childcare providers are adequately prepared to prevent, recognize, and respond to life-threatening allergic reactions.The need for such legislation is clear and urgent. Food allergies are a growing public health concern, affecting millions of children nationwide. These allergies can lead to severe and potentially fatal reactions, known as anaphylaxis, which require immediate treatment. Unfortunately, many childcare providers lack the necessary training and resources to effectively manage these emergencies, risking our children's lives.Elijah's Law addresses this critical gap by requiring all childcare facilities in Missouri to develop and implement comprehensive anaphylaxis policies and procedures. This includes training staff on the identification and avoidance of allergens, the recognition of allergic reaction symptoms, and the prompt administration of epinephrine—an essential lifesaving treatment.This legislation is named in memory of my son, Elijah-Alavi Silvera, whose tragic passing from an anaphylactic reaction highlighted the dire consequences of inadequate allergy safety protocols in childcare settings. Elijah's story is a heart-wrenching reminder of the risks children with allergies face every day. By enacting Elijah's Law, we can prevent other families from experiencing such an unimaginable loss.I urge you to consider the lives that will be saved and the families that will be protected through this law. Elijah's Law is a testament to what we can achieve when we prioritize the health and safety of our children above all else.I am grateful for the opportunity to share my perspective on this vital issue. I implore you to pass HB2036, ensuring that Maryland becomes a safer place for all children, especially those living with life-threatening allergies.Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your commitment to the children of Maryland.Sincerely,Sincerely,Thomas SilveraElijah-Alavi Foundationsilvera@elijahalavifoundation.org