



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2364		DATE: 3/13/2024	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: AMANDA KEARNS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: mandikearns@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/12/2024 1:34 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

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



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CHRIS GREENSTREET		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
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CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: cagreenstreet@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/13/2024 1:10 PM
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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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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JEN GREENSTREET		PHONE NUMBER: 816-260-3187	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: JUST LIKE YOU FILMS		TITLE: FOUNDER/CEO/FILMMAKER	
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EMAIL: jen@jlyfilms.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/12/2024 9:33 PM	

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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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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KATHLEEN DONOVAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
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CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: kdonovan412@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/13/2024 5:31 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL G GREENSTREET		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: gstreets53@comcast.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/13/2024 1:08 PM
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As a parent whose child has allergies, I cannot stress enough the importance of heightened awareness of allergies in child care facilities. Awareness of allergies isn't just a preference; it's a necessity for the health and safety of all children. By ensuring that caregivers are trained to recognize symptoms, understand allergens, and implement proper protocols, we can prevent potentially life-threatening situations and create a more inclusive and supportive environment for all children. It's about protecting our most vulnerable and ensuring that every child can thrive without fear of allergen exposure.



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

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

Support for HB 2364 - Ealy - ALLERGIES IN CHILD CARE FACILITIES To the Emerging Issue Committee I write to you not just as a representative of the Elijah Alavi Foundation but as a parent forever changed by the loss of a bright, beautiful child to a preventable tragedy. Our support for HB2364 comes from a profound personal commitment to transform our pain into a policy that protects every child at daycare from the unseen but very real dangers of food allergies. Elijah Alavi Silvera, my son, was only three when a lapse in daycare safety protocols led to his exposure to an allergen, stealing him from us forever. This loss is the heartbeat of our mission; it compels us to advocate for change, educate for understanding, and innovate for safety. Elijah's light guides us in every step we take. The Elijah-Alavi Foundation emerges from a heartrending narrative to ignite a transformative movement in the realm of food allergy awareness and safety. Born in the wake of Elijah-Alavi Silvera's untimely passing due to an anaphylactic reaction, our foundation channels our profound loss into a fervent crusade for change. We are the vanguard of advocacy, relentlessly pushing for pivotal legislation that fortifies the defenses of childcare environments against the silent threat of food allergies. Through comprehensive education, we empower communities with the knowledge to identify, understand, and act against the risks associated with food allergies. Our hands-on training initiatives equip caregivers and institutions with the life-saving skills and protocols necessary to ensure no child's laughter is stifled by preventable tragedy. Beyond instruction, our outreach efforts weave a fabric of support and unity, strengthening the collective resolve to safeguard the health and joy of every child. In every workshop, seminar, and community event we conduct, Elijah's legacy is palpably felt—inspiring a shared dedication to a world where the well-being of our children is upheld above all. Supporting HB2364 means you're not just voting for a bill; you're endorsing a shield that guards our little ones against a threat that can take them from us in a matter of minutes. You're helping us provide peace of mind to parents who will rest a little easier, knowing their child is in safe hands. I ask for your "aye" vote on HB2364 with the hope that together, we can bring about enduring change. Warm regards, Thomas Silvera-Co-Founder Elijah-Alavi Foundation tsilvera@elijahalavifoundation.org