



Please Cosponsor H.R. 2501 Medical Nutrition Equity Act 2019

This bill will ensure that public and private insurance covers medically necessary foods required to prevent severe disabilities and death so that children and adults with digestive and inherited metabolic disorders can become healthy and productive citizens.

Please contact Saundrea Rupert-Shropshire at Saundrea.Shropshire@mail.house.gov in Rep. Jim McGovern's office to cosponsor this legislation.

The Issue: Thousands of children and adults in our country have a diagnosis of a digestive or inherited metabolic disorders that prevent their bodies from digesting or metabolizing the food they need to survive. For them, medical nutrition is their treatment. Unfortunately, thousands of patients struggle with access to their treatment as it is very costly and insurance coverage is highly variable. Without their treatment, children and adults with digestive and inherited metabolic disorders suffer severe disabilities and even death.

The Medical Nutrition Equity Act would provide public and private insurance coverage for medically necessary foods for digestive and inherited metabolic disorders. In December 2016, Congress passed legislation that provides coverage for medical nutrition for military families enrolled in TRICARE. H.R. 2501 broadens the scope of coverage to patients under Medicaid, CHIP, Medicare, FEHBP, and private insurance if they are prescribed by the patient's provider.

- Digestive conditions include: inflammatory bowel disease (e.g. Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis), eosinophilic digestive disorders, food protein induced enterocolitis syndrome (FPIES), IgE mediated food allergies, and malabsorption due to liver or pancreatic dysfunction or short bowel syndrome.
- Inherited metabolic disorders include: metabolic disorders on the Recommended Uniform Screening Panel Core Conditions list of the Secretary of Health and Human Services' Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children; and other genetic metabolic disorders requiring special foods.

Even though many of these conditions are identified through newborn screening, health insurance coverage for treatment varies across the United States and continues to have a detrimental impact on individuals with these conditions, their families, and society.

Help save lives by cosponsoring the Medical Nutrition Equity Act today!