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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 517 Session of  
2024

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INTRODUCED BY DALEY, SCHLOSSBERG, HILL-EVANS, GUENST, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, GALLAGHER, HOWARD, SANCHEZ AND NEILSON,  
SEPTEMBER 6, 2024

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, SEPTEMBER 6, 2024

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A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States to pass the Food  
2 Labeling Modernization Act of 2023 and the Allergen  
3 Disclosure In Non-food Articles Act.

4 WHEREAS, The Food Labeling Modernization Act of 2023,  
5 introduced in the 118th Congress as H.R. 2901 and S. 1289, would  
6 require updates to the list of ingredients on packaged foods and  
7 add front-of-packaging food labeling requirements, including the  
8 disclosure of gluten-containing grains; and

9 WHEREAS, The Allergen Disclosure in Non-food Articles Act of  
10 2023, introduced in the 118th Congress as H.R. 4263 and S. 2079,  
11 would require that the label of a drug intended for human use  
12 identify each ingredient in the drug that is, or is derived  
13 directly or indirectly from, a major food allergen or gluten-  
14 containing grain; and

15 WHEREAS, Certain food and drug ingredients can pose serious  
16 health risks, including death, to those with allergies or  
17 intolerances to the ingredients; and

18 WHEREAS, Celiac disease, an illness caused by an autoimmune

1 reaction to gluten, affects approximately 1% of the population  
2 of the United States, while another 6% of the population has an  
3 intolerance to gluten; and

4 WHEREAS, Approximately 23 million people in the United  
5 States, including more than 900,000 Pennsylvanians, have celiac  
6 disease or an intolerance to gluten; and

7 WHEREAS, Those with celiac disease or an intolerance to  
8 gluten suffer from symptoms such as hives, skin rash, nausea,  
9 stomach cramps, indigestion, vomiting, diarrhea, joint pain,  
10 infertility, early osteoporosis, bloating and low blood counts;  
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Lack of compliance to a strict, gluten-free diet for  
13 those with celiac disease puts them at a six times greater risk  
14 of developing non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and a four times greater  
15 risk of developing cancer of the small intestine than the  
16 general population; and

17 WHEREAS, Current food and medication labels do not always  
18 provide the simple, straightforward information that consumers  
19 need to stay healthy and safe; and

20 WHEREAS, Under Federal law, food products containing wheat  
21 must be labeled to identify the presence of wheat; and

22 WHEREAS, Gluten can be found in grains other than wheat,  
23 including barley, oats and rye; and

24 WHEREAS, Without properly labeling all products that contain  
25 gluten, many individuals are at risk of developing severe  
26 reactions to the food and medicine that they ingest; and

27 WHEREAS, It is of utmost importance that we do all we can to  
28 help those with celiac disease and others with an intolerance to  
29 gluten better identify food and medicine that could be harmful  
30 to them; and

1       WHEREAS, The Commerce Clause of the Constitution of the  
2 United States restricts the ability of states to enact laws to  
3 regulate the labeling of products containing food or medication;  
4 therefore be it

5       RESOLVED, That the House Representatives urge the Congress of  
6 the United States to pass the Food Labeling Modernization Act of  
7 2023 and the Allergen Disclosure In Non-food Articles Act; and  
8 be it further

9       RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to  
10 the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each  
11 member of Congress from Pennsylvania.