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## The Grassroots Movement of Food Allergens in the United States and the Governments Role from 1990-2016

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### Cover Page Footnote

A special thanks to the Buffalo State E.H. Butler Library for access to HathiTrust and other research forums. As well as Dr. Chesterton for the help finding reliable sources, and sharing her know knowledge of research and writing. Jackson, K. D., Howie, L. D., & Akinbami, L. J. (2013). Trends in allergic conditions among children: United States, 1997-2011. NCHS data brief.-(Figure 1&2) Food Allergy Regulation, The Eight Major Food Allergens. Accessed on November 15, 2021. from <http://foodallergytrainingcourse.com/blog/food-allergens/the-eight-major-allergens/> Kennedy, Edward. Food Allergen Labeling and Consumer Protection Act: Committee of Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. October 17, 2002.-(Figure 4). Reilly, Norelle R., MD "The Gluten-Free Diet: Recognizing Fact, Fiction, or Fad" The Journal of Pediatrics, 175, (May 13, 2016).1-5, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpeds.2016.04.014>.. (Figure 6). Rowe, Albert H. M.S., M.D. Food Allergy: Its Manifestations, Diagnosis and Treatment with a General Discussion of Bronchial Asthma. California: Lea and Febiger, 1931. Sampson H. A. (2016). Food allergy: Past, present and future. Allergology international : official journal of the Japanese Society of Allergology, 65(4), 363–369. Trivida Functional Medicine- Gluten Free Dairy Substitutions. Accessed on November 15, 2021. from, <https://trividafunctionalmedicine.com/gluten-free-dairy-free/>.(Figure 5). .



# The Grassroots Movement of Food Allergens in the United States and the Government's Role from 1990-2016



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## Background of Food Allergies

- Hippocrates was the first to observe and note food reactions.
- Just within the last few decades has food allergies become a serious problems in the eyes of the public.
- During the 19th century was the first medical care provide to food allergies, but not supported or respected.
- Currently over 7 million Americans have food allergies, and 30,00 die every year to allergen related incidents.
- Until recently, support, and funding was scarce.
- The big 8
- Was not until 1990s when allergen tracking in proteins.



Figure 3

## Lack Of Regulation

- No set rules or regulation across the country enforcing food allergy safety.
- Connecticut was the first state to require food allergy guidelines in schools. (Not official)
- Soon after New York, Arizona, Washington and New Jersey followed
- Sabrina Shannon's Law- a law putting government requirements to providing care and training to anaphylactic situations in public.
- It was created by Sara Shannon, Sabrinas mother and It did not occur in the United States but was adopted from Canada.

## Living With Food Allergies

- Life threatening, very little treatment options.
- Daily problem that affects all aspects of life.
- Serious, yet not taken serious. Taken serious by those who if affects but not by government, and public officials.
- Allergens have unexplained trends.
- Almost all public places until recently were unaccommodating, unregulated and unsafe.

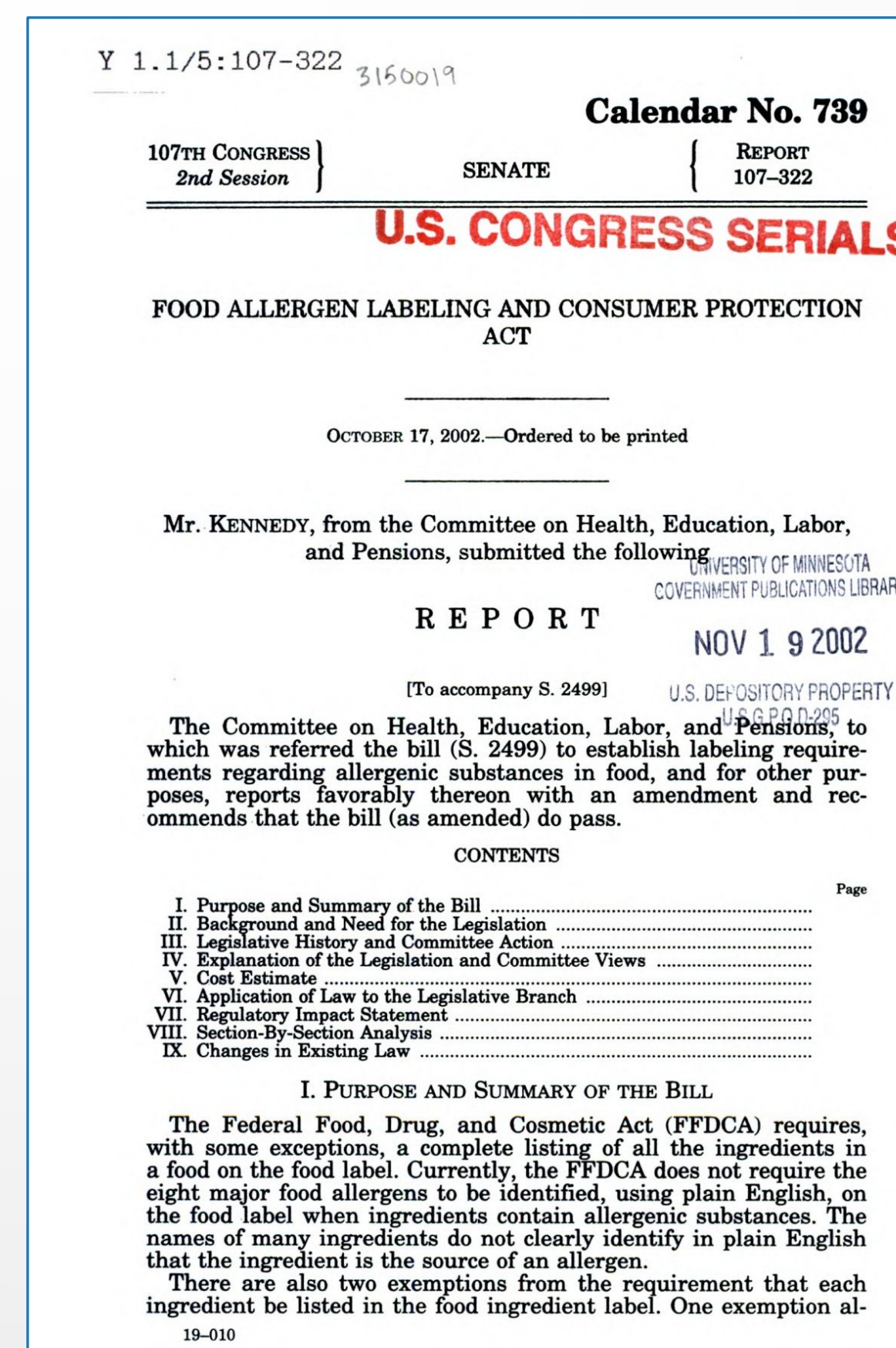


Figure 4

## Government Interference

- Interference was very minimal and only done once it is brought to their attention.
- Practices and guidelines were never done preventively, or enforced.
- Almost all actions done by the government were jump started by a movement of people
- The government had very little information and data to back those who spoke their problems to Congress.
- Most government meetings brought in world renown doctors such as Dr. Fauci and Dr. Sampson that are knowledgeable in the field to clarify, and speak upon information presented, and to provide knowledgeable options and aid.
- It took multiple attempts and incidents to bring awareness to the government in order to be considered a problem and public safety health concern.
- Reform and awareness would have never happened if average people did not push this issue to a higher level

## Reform and Eventual Regulation

## Change in Culture

- Gluten-free and Dairy-free fad is a real thing.
- They present as healthier, more sustainable options.
- Restaurants, grocery stores, and public places like schools are becoming more accommodating and safe.
- Use of dairy and gluten free options has brought down accidental incidents..
- More funding and awareness done in the last 10 years than before.
- More help and dedication to those who dont have allergies in respect for those who do.



Figure 5

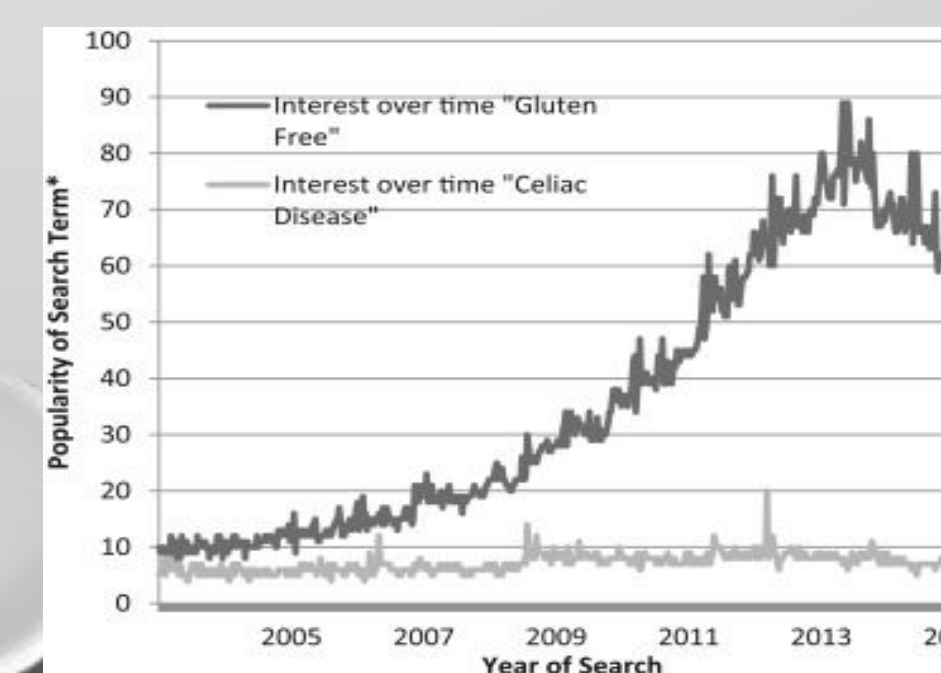


Figure 6

- FFDCA Food Label Modifications- All labels must be clear to read and list any possible contaminants, specifically the big 8.
- FDA reports, any time that an accidental cross contamination of food occurs in a manufacturing building it must be reported to the government, to track repeat offenders.
- Manufacturer Safety-new standards were created for cleanliness and procedures in manufacturing building to avoid contamination.
- The NIH (National Institute of Health), must create a panel of experts to continue efforts, studies and research.
- Medicine Reports- anytime a medication that is used to counteract an allergic reaction it must be reported what kind of allergy and where.
- Public Safety Training-places such as daycares, schools, restaurants and stores need to be taught the signs of a reaction and how to respond.

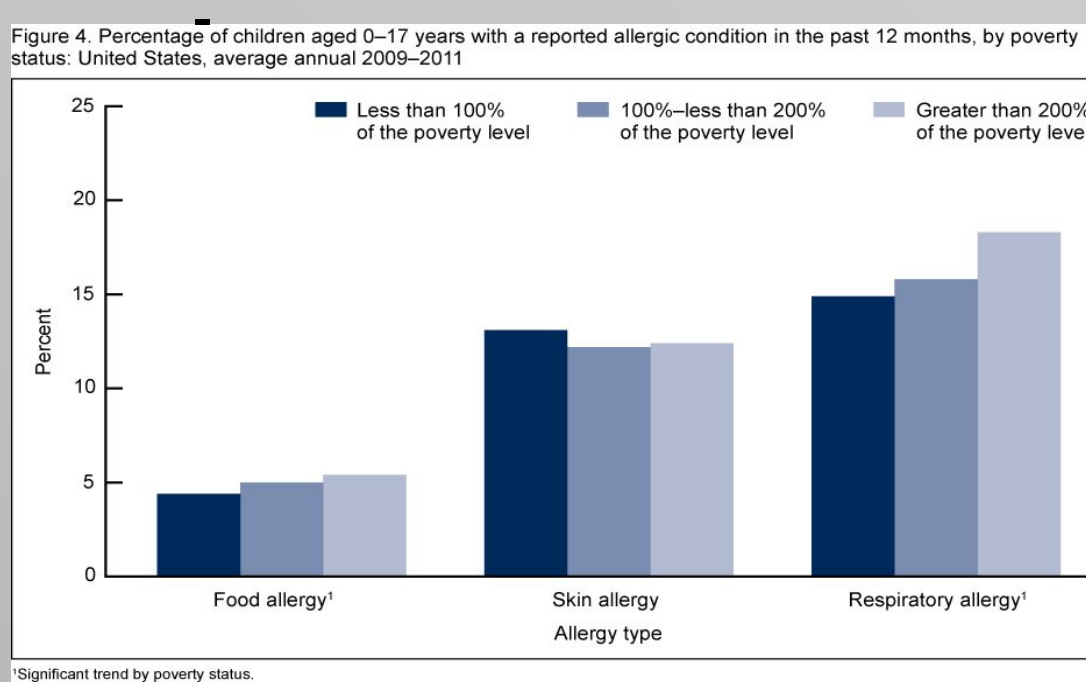


Figure 1

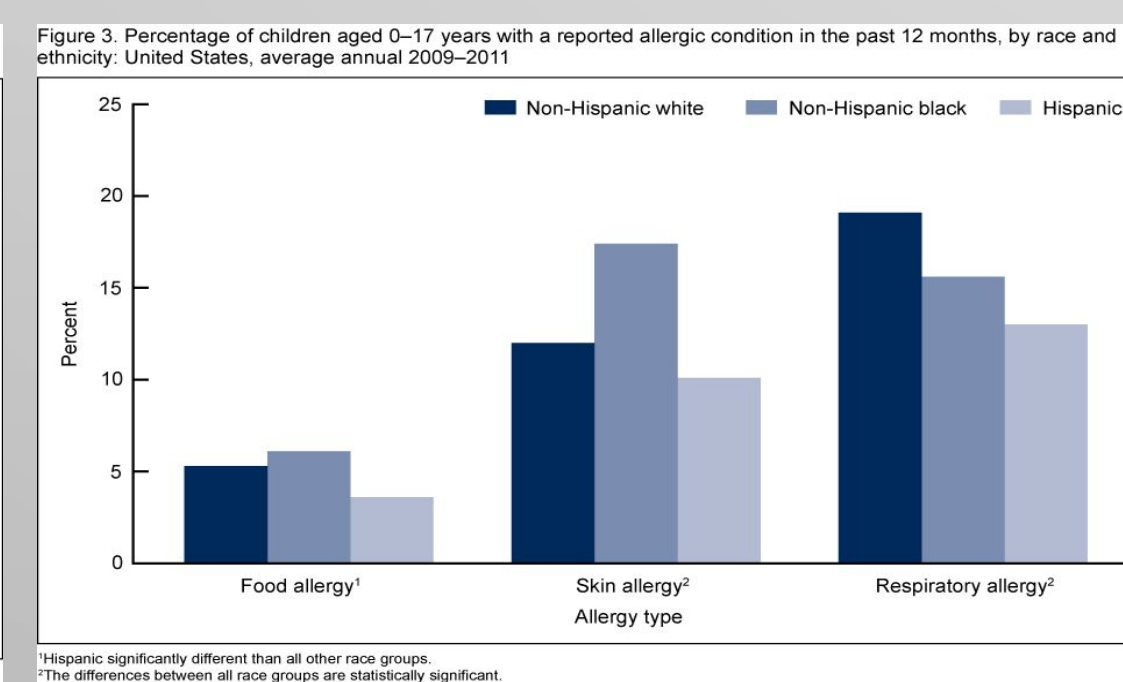


Figure 2