

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Members of the House of Representatives

FROM: Rep. Matt Bradford

DATE: January 3, 2011

SUBJECT: Hypoallergenic Baby Formula

In the near future, I plan to reintroduce legislation that will provide insurance coverage for hypoallergenic baby formula in cases where such formula is medically necessary.

Hypoallergenic baby formula is used to help prevent and treat allergic diseases in babies and, occasionally, in children. Hypoallergenic formulas are commonly recommended in three situations:

1. For babies born into families with a high number of allergic conditions like asthma, eczema, hay fever, or food allergies, and therefore will not be breastfed;
2. For babies who are allergic to or intolerant of proteins in formula or breast milk; and
3. For nutrition in people with eosinophilic esophagitis who are allergic to many foods.

This legislation amends the Medical Foods Insurance Coverage Act by adding coverage for hypoallergenic baby formula. In many cases, this formula is medically necessary and critical to the well-being of many infants afflicted with rare hereditary genetic metabolic disorders. Benefits will be subject to copayment and coinsurance provisions of a health insurance policy to the extent that other medical services covered by the policy are subject to those provisions.

If you would like to co-sponsor this resolution, please contact Frank Iannuzzi in my office at 772-2572 (Democratic Caucus 6628) or e-mail Fannuzz@pahouse.net. Thank you.