

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
27th DISTRICT
LAURIE JINKINS

State of
Washington
House of
Representatives



HEALTH CARE
& WELLNESS
VICE CHAIR
CAPITAL BUDGET
ENVIRONMENT
TRANSPORTATION

October 25, 2012

Honorable Norm Dicks
1019 Pacific Ave, Suite 806
Tacoma, WA 98402

Dear Congressman Dicks,

Every 10 minutes, a child is rushed to the emergency room because of food allergies. Not only is this a scary and potentially life threatening experience for the child and their family, but it is also a costly way to administer healthcare.

I represent many families who are negatively impacted by food allergies. In Olympia, I serve as the vice-chair on the Health & Wellness committee. Much of our policy discussion is related to costs of healthcare and protecting the most vulnerable. Finding preventative treatments, like a cure for food allergies, can eliminate many costly trips to the emergency room.

Throughout my career with the Pierce County Health Department I have seen firsthand the negative impact that food allergies can have on one's health.

While I am well aware of the limitations of our public dollars, there has to be a place for the funding of medical research that can change lives – particularly the lives of children.

Food allergies are a growing problem for families and our military. I respectfully ask that you support continued funding for food allergy research in an amount that is meaningful and would allow for clinical research to be conducted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "LJinkins", written in a cursive style.

Laurie Jinkins
State Representative
3121 No. Gove St
Tacoma, WA 98406