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Details:

(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

## WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

### 2009-10

(session year)

### Senate

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

### Committee on ... Public Health, Senior Issues, Long-Term Care, and Job Creation (SC-PHSILTCJC)

### COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**

### INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)  
(**ab** = Assembly Bill)                      (**ar** = Assembly Resolution)                      (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)  
(**sb** = Senate Bill)                              (**sr** = Senate Resolution)                              (**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**

September 15, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in regard to Senate Bill 115. My family and I have used nutritional supplements throughout the years, along with trying to live a healthy life style. The nutritional supplements that we have used have been successful. We would like to continue to have freedom of choice to see whomever we choose for nutritional care and advice.

Sincerely,

*Brian Marit*

*Vicki Marit*

Brian and Vicki Marit



September 15, 2009

Dear State Legislators,

Please vote no on SB 115 and its amendments.

Several years ago the Barron Area School District had Karen Hurd, a nutritionist, speak to the faculty about diet and nutrition. Her knowledge and experience led many of us to take a second look at our diet and make some changes. Her suggestion that we do what we can to eat a healthier diet and to take small steps did make a difference. Certainly with the concern for health care costs and the obesity problem, as well as other diseases, such as diabetes, this is a positive way to impact lives and our society.

Several of my friends have consulted with her personally, and all have found her advice and counsel to be helpful to their health and well-being.

As citizens and consumers we need to have as many options available as possible. We need to make informed choices and do what we see works for us and is best for us individually. Please allow us this right and freedom in our health choices.

Sincerely,

Lynn Wehn  
1213 Second Street  
Chetek, WI 54728



9-15-2009

To Whom it may concern:

I am NOT in favor of passing the Senate Bill # 115.

I enjoy my choice of having NATURAL HEALTH CARE BENEFITS, as health food stores and natural health practitioners etc. My life has been improved by taking these steps to GREAT HEALTH.

Valerie Green  
West Bend, WI



September 15, 2009

Re: State Bill 115: Licensure of dietitians and requiring the exercise of rule-making authority.

Dear Honorable Senators Vinehout, Carpenter, Lehman, Taylor, Plale, Kanavas and Representative Richards,

This bill will unfortunately prevent naturopathic practitioners, such as Martin Johnson of Total Health Natural Medicine Clinic of Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin from providing persons such as myself with natural and nutritional information and guidance. It will also potentially eliminate his employment and that of his many valuable and knowledgeable employees. This clinic is one of over 100 practicing naturopaths in Wisconsin. So the implications of job loss multiplied by hundreds are obvious at a time when Wisconsin has an already high rate of unemployment.

This 'fence me in/fence me out' bill is just one more needless bill that continues to legislate the citizens of Wisconsin ad nauseum. This one in particular makes it difficult for persons seeking complementary or alternative medicines and advice from certified and degreed professionals in the areas of naturopathic medicine.

I have been under the care of Martin Johnson, Naturopathic Practitioner, for over 13 years. For the last 5 years his focus has been in providing nutritional and supplemental information to better maintain my cognition and general health geared specifically to my multiple sclerosis. If it were not for his efforts and sincere concern for my overall well being, I know for certain that I would not be functioning on the mental and cognitive levels that enable me to complete a masters degree in German, continue to study and teach Latin, keep a physically active life and enjoy a healthy attitude towards my condition.

They are thousands of taxpayers in Wisconsin that seek out complementary medicines to resolve health issues with positive results. In Wisconsin alone, there are over 10,000 people affected by MS, many of which seek out alternatives to western medicines. I shudder to think what the status of my health and quality of life along with thousands of others would be without these services offered by qualified and competent practitioners.

For me, the access to alternative medicines is particularly poignant, since the negative effects from western multiple sclerosis therapies cause cognitive, physical and mental interferences in my day-to-day life. Currently, I am considering discontinuing these therapies in favor of natural ones that cause no ill effects.

Thank you for seriously considering rejecting this bill that will negatively affect so many people of this great state.

Anne L. Schumacher  
W224 N8168 Rudy Jr. Court  
Sussex, WI 53089





9-15-2007  
3319 Alf Court  
Eau Claire, WI  
54701

Kathleen Vinehout  
31st Senate District  
Room 104 South  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Senator Kathleen Vinehout,  
I am writing regarding the Bill  
SB 115 I would like to see this  
Bill killed. It is really unfair.

My nutritionist, Karen Hurd, has  
done more for me in twenty six days  
than the doctors have done in  
2 1/2 years. I'm really on my way  
to recovery.

When there is something good like  
the nutritionists, why do we have  
to give them up. I thought this  
was a free country.

Please take this letter as a vote  
against the Bill SB 115

Sincerely  
Dorinda Blum  
3319 Alf Court  
Eau Claire, WI  
54701  
Phone 715 831-1957



9-15-2006

Jeff Smith  
93rd Assembly District  
State Capital  
P.O. Box 8953  
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Representative Jeff Smith,

I am writing regarding the Bill SB115.  
I would like this bill killed. Its  
really unfair.

My Nutritionist, Karen R. Hurd has done  
more for me in 26 days than the doctors  
have done in 2 1/2 years. I'm really  
on my way to recovery.

When there is something good like  
the nutritionists, why do we have  
to give them up. I thought this  
was a free country.

Please take this letter as  
a vote against the bill SB115.

Sincerely  
Donna M Blum  
3319 Alf Court  
Eau Claire, WI 54601  
Phone 715-831-1957



September 15, 2009

8115?

I am asking that my story be read as I am unable to attend today's hearing due to business commitments.

23 years ago, after heeding the natural & whole foods nutrition recommendations and recipes made by natural hygienists Harvey & Marilyn Diamond in their book "Fit for Life", my physical wellness and weight changed. This was after years of low-fat dieting, calorie counting and exercising extreme portion control, as was being recommended by local medical and dietetic authorities. In addition, my cholesterol improved, my blood pressure lowered, the arthritis in my knees was no longer an issue and my skin cleared up.

In 1999, after suffering a series of excruciating and debilitating colon attacks, I was seen by a local internist at my clinic. After an initial misdiagnosis of "colon stones" I was diagnosed with "spastic colon" and was advised to no longer include the following foods in my diet:

- Apples
- Broccoli
- Cauliflower
- Cabbage
- Cheese
- Spinach
- Lettuce
- Meat
- Soy
- Coffee
- Chocolate

He further advised that if this did not end the attacks I would need to go in for intestinal surgery.

I immediately felt that there was "something wrong with this picture" as I knew these foods to be healthful and extremely important to maintaining my health, in general. So I began a journey and sought as much information as possible from leading nutrition authorities to include naturopathic doctors, certified nutritionists and organic cooking specialists. As a result, I never sought medical help for digestive related issues again.

After learning that my issues were, more correctly, impacted by processed grains, wheat, msg, starches, sugar and other food additives, I eliminated these foods and today I enjoy all the healthy, high antioxidant and water soluble, high-fiber foods that I was told to avoid.

Last year I began to suffer what I believe may have been a non-allergy, allergy issue entitled "vasomotor rhinitis". After researching what I knew to be an atypical attack of sneezing and acute nasal discharge over a 3 or 4 month period, I consulted online medical websites for a possible explanation of my symptoms and found that although many suffered from this mysterious onset of severe and uncontrollable allergy symptoms, there was no cure and no real relief. An issue of the central nervous system, many sufferers had blogged that they had not been medically diagnosed, except as a last resort, after first going through countless allergy tests, pharmaceutical trials and much suffering.

I made the choice to consult with a naturopathic doctor and nutrition certified chiropractor. Within 1 month of following their nutritional recommendations and the temporary introduction of a whole foods supplement, my symptoms began to dissipate and today, none of the previous symptoms exist.

There are more personal examples that I could share today, however I know that there are others who need to be heard. The point of my story is to demonstrate our crucial need today to have free choice and legal access to those who are most qualified and specifically educated in areas of nutrition that help to prevent, control and/or cure many of today's health issues. In my own personal journey, this freedom of choice has not only served to significantly impact my ability to remain healthy, fit, illness-free and pharmaceutical-free but has ultimately saved my family much expense and time. Freedom of health choice is imperative to *true* health care reform.

K.C. Thorson  
President

**K.C.'s Kafe© - For "fast food" alternatives, ...*NATURALLY!***

**(262) 255-2141 - Res Office**

**(262) 894-5055 - Cell**

**<http://www.kcskafe.com>**





9/15/09

SB 115?

Dr. Marty Johnson is an excellent naturopathic doctor who has really helped me. I had extreme pain in the gall bladder area. He helped me understand that gallstones were causing many of my other health problems. He led me through a method of painlessly ridding my body of gallstones. Now 4 months later, I am completely healed - and all without surgery or drugs. I highly recommend him to anyone looking to regain their health!

Sincerely,  
Nancy Baggett



Dave

From: Sarah [SLDRIVER@charter.net]  
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2009 12:47 AM  
To: Dad and mom  
To Whom it may concern:

SB115?

My mom, Louise Driver, has worked with Karen Hurd for over a year now. The changes I see with in her are amazing. Before she started this "diet," she was always in pain. I would see her sitting on the sidelines alot due to the fact she was to tried to participate or was in to much pain. She didn't come to visit me very often due to her getting tired out really fast. She now comes to Eau Claire almost every week to play with my niece and nephews, visit me and get some shopping done. Its nice to be able to spend time with my mom and not have to stop what we are doing to rest, or for her to take her pain pills.

I see no ill side effects from being on this diet at all. Its nice to have my mom back again.

Sarah L. Driver

No virus found in this incoming message.  
Checked by AVG - [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)  
Version: 8.5.409 / Virus Database: 270.13.98/2371 - Release Date: 09/14/09 17:52:00

9/16/2009



September 16, 2009

Dear representatives of Wisconsin citizens and taxpayers,

I regret that I could not be at the hearing today, but please count me among the numbers of people present who are opposed to Senate Bill 115. I strongly urge you to kill this bill concerning Restrictive Dietary Licensing Legislation.

I never cease to be amazed at the issues politicians are willing to embrace that are not only virtually useless to the well-being of the average citizen but only serve to further restrict our individual freedoms and intensify control over our personal lives.

What is the real reason for this bill? Are you motivated by concern for the personal health of individuals? Must we be treated like children who are unable to discern right from wrong, good from bad, true from false, real from fake? Must government, once again, be the nanny? If you are sincerely interested in the nutritional well-being of the voters of this state, you would be looking to pass legislation that would shut down grocery and convenience stores that sell dangerous, disease-causing cigarettes; taverns and restaurants that sell disease- and death-causing liquor; doctors and pharmaceutical companies that prescribe and sell prescription drugs that cause dangerous side effects, even death; food companies that sell disease-contributing sugar-laden breakfast foods which many of the most vulnerable in our society consume every day before they head to school.

Since you are doing none of those things to protect us, is it not logical for me to assume that your motives, if this bill is passed, are suspect? That special interests have taken your reason and your conscience hostage?

Several years ago, I was handed a drug prescription by a medical doctor, along with ten pages of information about my condition and the drug. Following is a partial list of adverse reactions: headache, fatigue, dizziness, insomnia, mental confusion, nausea, vomiting, epigastric distress, diarrhea, GI bleeding, hepatotoxicity, lupus-like syndrome. There were as many more symptoms listed that a layperson, like myself, could neither pronounce nor understand. Ironic, isn't it, that some of those very symptoms, if stand-alone, would send people running to a doctor with, "what's wrong with me?" but yet are almost to be expected when resulting from the taking of a prescription drug. The doctor informed me that I would need periodic blood tests because of the drug's potential for damaging my liver, as well as other organs or systems. Now, here's the kicker, and I quote from one of the pages: "...even oral therapy is associated with a high rate of treatment failure and recurrence. Results with long-term oral [drug name] treatment have been disappointing." I could not do much more than conclude the following: I was to take the drug in spite of the fact that I might have nothing to show for it but a continuation of the same symptoms, plus a bad liver. I never filled the prescription, and I am also sure no government goons have raided the doctor's office!

My daughter is currently being treated by a naturopathic professional. Need I remind you of the very personal and confidential doctor-patient relationship that can be vital to the treatment and healing process? Were SB115 to be signed into law, most likely forcing this professional to be unavailable to my child, it would be devastating to her; and it could very well mean a relapse of her symptoms (which have been continually improving) and lost time spent in having to research other alternatives. Passage of this bill would severely limit our choices. Not only would it have zero positive impact on the overall health of Wisconsin citizens, it would most likely result in increased health problems for individuals who have been, or are being, helped by professionals that this bill attempts to ultimately suppress.

It is beyond me why any of you would even care what health care choices individuals pursue, and why you would want to restrict those choices with this bill; thus, if SB115 passes, I can only conclude that the lust for power and control over people's individual choices has dulled, if not obliterated, your consciences. What a sad commentary on our society that, if this bill is passed, we may find it much easier to seek out a doctor who can kill an unborn child in the womb than a practitioner who can hand us a vitamin!

WHY DO YOU CARE? Protect us only where we cannot protect ourselves; otherwise,  
STAY OUT OF OUR LIVES!!!

Sincerely,

Doris Rindfleisch

W153 N5264 Plaza Drive

Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

262-781-3113





WED Sep 16, 2009

State Senator Russ Decker

Called  
In

Dear legislators who are working on the SB115 bill.

My name is Autumn Butterfield. I am 49½ years old and have Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA).

I started showing and having symptoms of RA in the spring of 2006 and was finally diagnosed with RA in March of 2007.

I have been seeing Nutritionist Karen R. Hurd since July of 2008. I have had a lot less RA pain and the issues that go with having RA since seeing her.

I want you to vote no to the bill SB115, so I can keep seeing my nutritionist and keep feeling well.

Thank you in advance for making a wise choice to keep me out of pain.

Sincerely,

Autumn Butterfield

Autumn Butterfield  
W10644 Peterson Rd.  
Ladysmith, WI 54848

1 (715) 868-5369



Date: 09/16/09

Re: SB 115

To Whom It May Concern:

I am opposed to SB 115 also known as Restrictive Dietary Licensing Legislature for a number of reasons. First and foremost, I believe through personal education and experience that natural health via proper diet and supplementation is essential to being proactive about your health. In a world where we are constantly exposed to a variety of dangerous substances such as heavy metals, toxic chemicals, and nutrient deficient foods, it is vital for us to have access to the above. Currently our society's health is on a one-way street to destruction. In my line of work I have witnessed miraculous cases where people have turned their health around by making dietary changes and using supplementation to support their health. It would be extremely sad to not be able to offer a life-changing service to people.

Also, this bill has the potential to shut down a large number of businesses in Wisconsin. The loss of businesses, revenue and jobs would add to our struggling economy. Vitamin stores, natural food/supplement stores, natural health clinics, nutritionists, and individuals that sell supplements as their source of income would be out of work because it would be illegal for them to give "nutritional advice" according to SB 115.

Thirdly, I find this bill insulting. As an American I should have the right to choose where I receive my healthcare and console. My health is my business and I DO NOT appreciate the government interfering because they feel the need to "protect" me.

In closing, I do not support SB 115 and hope that you will consider all sides and what will be lost if it did pass.

Thank you,



Kristine Stein  
Milwaukee, WI



Mr Jeff Smith,

I just heard of a bill, SB115, that is to stop nutritionists from practicing.

My friend, Donna Blum, is quite happy because the nutritionist in Augusta, Karen, has her back into life after two and a half years of seeing doctors and taking all sorts of medicines and never getting any better.

In 26 <sup>days</sup> weeks with Karen she is now back to driving and doing volunteering just as before. She is writing to you also. We marvel at how she has come back to life.

I heard of this lady in Augusta when our daughter had an accident years ago with her four-wheeler and injured her arm. Karen got her back to super health.

Karen is now working for her masters and it is too bad nutritionists are not working with the doctors.

So, with what I have learned from others this sounds like a bill that should be killed.

Thanking you sincerely,

Betty Gumbert



203 Rosebud Lane  
Altoona, WI 54720

715-832-9663

betbg@att.net

September 16, 2009



September 16, 2009

Dear representatives of Wisconsin citizens and taxpayers,

I regret that I could not be at the hearing today, but please count me among the numbers of people present who are opposed to **Senate Bill 115**. I strongly urge you to kill this bill concerning Restrictive Dietary Licensing Legislation.

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STAY OUT OF OUR LIVES!!!

Sincerely,

Doris Rindfleisch

W153 N5264 Plaza Drive

Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

262-781-3113



Sept 16, 2009

Attention:

Senator Pat Krutlow;

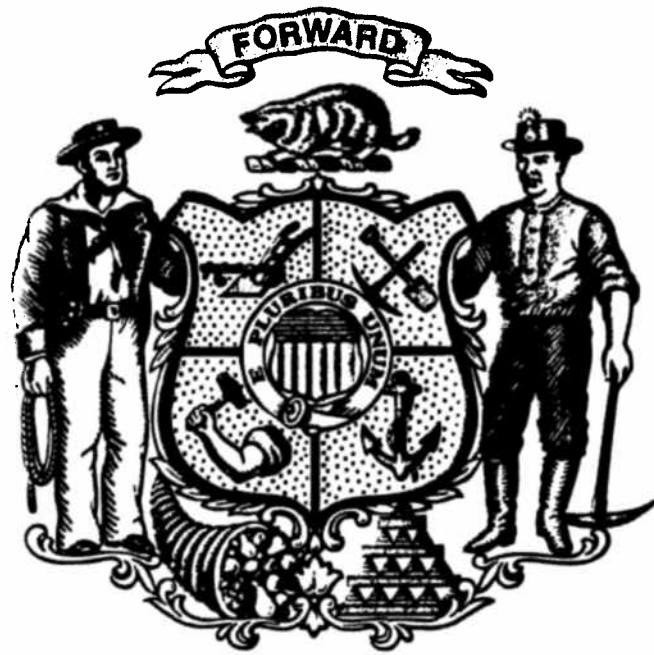
SB115?

I have been under the guidance of Karen Ward since 2008 and have never felt better. I was tired all the time and out of breath on very short walks. Since she quit drinking coffee and not consuming desserts of all kinds; I have alot more energy and it feels great to get up in the morning and not feel bogged down as I used to be. Coffee to get me going and eating unhealthy snacks & foods which raised my cholesterol and also had a lot of heartburn. Since following her advice. I feel great for a 70 year old woman and happy to say no pain, no heartburn, and I am able to do more than I used to.

My daughter took me on one of her visits to Karen and after listening to her I belived, "this lady knows what she's talking about." She's well respected in the area and she has helped alot of people. Her knowledge and wisdom is outstanding on nutrition and she should be allowed to continue helping people -

Sincerely,

Juene M. Swartz  
211 W. Greenville St.  
Chippewa Falls, WI  
54729



SBI15?

Sept 16, 2009

Dear Wisconsin State Senator Kathleen Keckhaug;

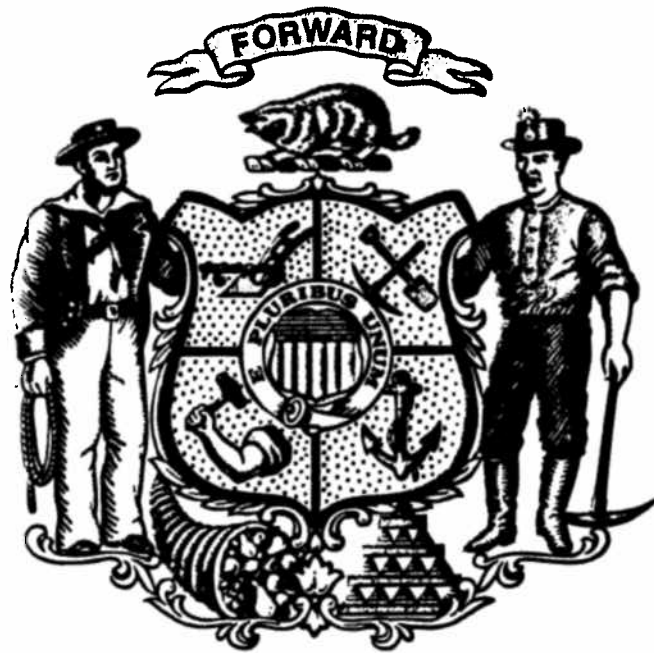
I began going to Karen Hurd for nutritional advice in March of 2008. My cholesterol was high and I was overweight. My feet, lower back & hips all hurt. I was tired all the time and had little energy. The amount of sugar I was consuming on a daily basis was very high. I had fallen into a pattern of unhealthy living and didn't know how to get out of it. I could see myself following the footsteps of my father who passed away at the age of 61 from cancer.

Karen is well respected in our community and through word of mouth, I heard that she had a very good reputation for helping people get healthy again, so I began going to her.

Within two months my cholesterol was within normal range and the weight began disappearing.

I am so thankful to say "I am nearly pain free". She is a very intelligent woman with a lot of wisdom and I thank God for her. Please allow her to continue helping people that want to be helped by her knowledge & wisdom. It has been a blessing to me.

Kathleen Meckhaug  
325 Dahlia Lane  
Altona, WI  
53412



hurld

SB 115?

Sept 16, 2009

To Whom It May Concern,

I had so hoped I would be able to be there today, but my work is very demanding right now. This is a job that I would not be able to hold if not for the guidance of nutritionists, Supplements and natural healers.

I have suffered with Fibromyalgia for many years. I have been to doctors who have had me try many medications over the years, none of which helped me. Quite the opposite, I was tired and kind of out of it most of the time and still in gret pain. It was not an enjoyable experience. Had I kept going in the manner I was I would no doubt be disabled today.

I chose to look for an alternative way to deal with my desease. I have found ways to control the pain without narcotics. This has come through the guidance of nutritionists, Supplements and natural healers. I still have bouts of the desease that are painful, but I also have the knowledge and assistance of a few great people who always seem to get me through them. I would be lost if I could not consult these people. I do believe in doctors and see them when needed, however I am one of the group who has no health insurance. So if I can find a way to feel better without drugs and alot of expensive treatments and tests that works better, shouldn't I be able to. I am not sure why this bill has come about, but I do know it would be a great loss to many if it is passed. I sincerely hope that you don't take the right away to choose our own path in health care from me and so many others who rely on these people.

Sincerely

Carrie Popple  
613 N 3rd St  
Cameron, WI 54822  
715-205-7148





September 16, 2009

SB 115?

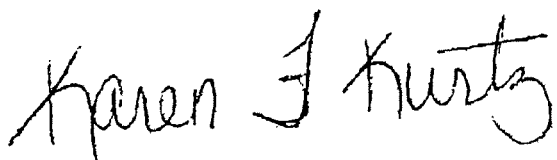
To Whom It May Concern:

This is a letter recommending that you not pass the intended bill to stop certain professionals from making nutritional recommendations to their patients. My son has many severe allergies that often lead to other health related problems, including allergic reactions requiring inpatient care. After seeing little improvement using the Western medicine approach to treat his allergies, my husband and I turned to Martin Johnson for a more "natural" way to improve our son's health.

We have been seeing Martin for almost a year and have witnessed a great improvement in our son's overall health. In short, the nutritional supplements have made a dramatic difference in our son's physical well being. My husband and I firmly believe that it would be a great loss to lose Martin Johnson. We do not want to return to the old way of one prescription after another that never helped in the first place. We prefer that our son live a natural, healthier and less "painful" lifestyle.

Please do not pass this bill as it will impact many people and families that have decided to try a "new" way of living!

Sincerely,



Karen F. Kurtz



SB115?

9-16-09

To our Legislative Representatives,

I have been under the care of Martin Johnson, N.D. and Char Waters N.D. for many years now. Their educated advice has kept me well and out of doctors offices for over 10 years now. I go for occasional testing to find out my cholesterol, triglyceride, blood glucose levels, etc. This tells me if my life style changes and supplements are doing their job. Under naturopathic care and sound advice, I have minimal health care bills and have stayed away from prescription drugs, which often times cause more harm than good in my opinion. I could not get this type of care from a "certified dietician".

I ask that you consider this proposal (to only allow certified dieticians) to give out nutritional advice as a step backwards in alternative health care. I ask that you allow me and many of my peers to have the freedom to seek out health related lifestyle and nutritional advice from whomever we choose. Thank you for your consideration.

A concerned citizen,  
Suzanne Smith



September 16, 2009

SB115?

To whom it may concern,

I hereby state that this information may be used by Total Health Nutrition Center and anyone related as testimony for the bill being passed about natural health practitioners. I cannot begin to express how grateful I am and how much joy natural health has brought to my family's life. Most importantly, I enjoy the fact that my family and I are maintaining good health. Also important to mention is that my family and I individually chose to practice natural health and taking this away would be a huge violation of our freedom. Every body is different and it is up to the individual to know what works best for him or her. Our family fully supports Mr. Marty and his staff, and wish that the state only provides them support as well.

Sincerely,

Renata Rozanski Mieczyslaw Jc Rozanski Ewa Rozanski

Renata Rozanski, Mieczyslaw Rozanski, and Ewa Rozanski