



# NATIONAL HEALTH FREEDOM ACTION

## Urgent Action Needed to Oppose New Jersey SB 1318, a Restrictive Dietitian Nutritionist Licensing Bill, by 2pm on Monday, May 16

SB 1318 is scheduled to be heard in the Senate Commerce Committee on Monday, May 16, 2016 at 2:00 pm in Committee Room 6 of the State House Annex building. Please attend the hearing to testify in opposition of the bill and/or, *at the very least*, leave a message with the office of each Senate Commerce Committee Member, info below, to tell them to vote note NO on S.B. 1318 and email your legislators to share your opposition too!

**S.B. 1318 (companion bill A.B. 1820) would unconstitutionally limit freedom of speech and freedom of choice in practitioners of natural health.** The bill limits herbalists, naturopaths, nutritional consultants, and holistic health coaches - and even people like housewives - who need to talk and make recommendations about food and herbs all the time. This bill would limit their practices and limit their speech about nutrition. There is no evidence that consumers are being harmed without restrictive regulation and so there is no reason to make illegal the “practice” of dietetics/nutrition. **Please call the members of the Senate Commerce Committee before 2pm on Monday to ask them to vote no on S.B. 1318. Then, use the link below to send an email of opposition to your personal Senator and Representative.**

### Members of the Senate Commerce Committee Contact Information:

Senator (District)	Phone
Nia H. Gill, Chair (D; 34)	(973) 509-0388
Raymond Lesniak, Vice-chair (D; 20)	(908) 624-0880
James Beach (D; 6)	(856) 429-1572
Gerald Cardinale (R; 39)	(201) 567-2324
Thomas H. Kean (R; 21)	(908) 232-3673 or (908) 918-0414
Nicholas P. Scutari (D; 22)	(908) 587-0404

### The message for Committee Members:

“I oppose S.B. 1318, a bill to License Dietitians and Nutritionists, as written – it unconstitutionally limits our freedom of speech on nutrition and decreases and jeopardizes consumer options in natural health care. Please tell the Senator to vote no on S.B. 1318 when it is heard in Commerce Committee on Monday. Thank you.”

Webform to E-mail your Senator and Representative, is available [HERE](#).

**Message for your personal legislators (note** - although we welcome you to copy and paste the message below, please take the time to write a personal note on your letter too as this will have a greater impact with the

legislators. Tell them about your rights as a consumer in New Jersey to a free and educated choice in health care providers. Also tell them that you depend on alternative and complementary care for you and your family):

Subject: Please Oppose S.B. 1318/A.B. 1820, Licensing Dietitians/Nutritionists

Dear Legislator,

As your constituent, I respectfully urge you to please oppose New Jersey S.B. 1318/ A.B. 1820, relating to Dietitian and Nutritionist Licensing. SB. 1318/ A.B. 1820 seeks to create an offensive broad occupational monopoly on the world of nutrition by a private trade group, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (formerly the American Dietetics Association), claiming that only those dietitians/nutritionists with the endorsed trade group education can obtain licensure from the state of New Jersey, and claiming a sweeping scope of practice that even includes simply using nutrition to achieve and maintain health.

S.B. 1318/ A.B. 1820 would jeopardize my right to make recommendations or give advice about nutrition without a dietitian/nutrition license because it threatens freedom of speech on nutrition and decreases consumer options in natural health care. There is no evidence that consumers are being harmed without restrictive regulation and so there is no reason to make illegal the “practice” of dietetics/nutrition.

This bill is especially offensive to the citizens of New Jersey because, as other states have recently realized when they decided to repeal their dietitian licensing laws, “The regulation of dieticians and nutritionists does not provide a clear public health and safety benefit.” Michigan’s Office of Regulatory Reinvention (ORR), Recommendations Regarding Occupational Licensing (Feb. 2012); see also 2013 MI H.B. 4688, assigned PA 267’14. Please do not discourage job creation and decrease competition in the field of nutrition, and thereby increase costs for consumers!

You can protect my right to access nutrition-care services from the practitioners of my choice by opposing S.B. 1318/A.B. 1820.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

