NEVADA GIRLS STATE ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 14

AN ACT that will require a gluten-free option for lunch in Nevada public elementary, middle, and high schools.

SECTION 1: Approximately 25% of Americans abide by a gluten-free diet. With a quarter of people preferring gluten-free food items, an option to eat a gluten-free meal should be provided at every lunch opportunity.

SECTION 2: Nearly 6% of Americans deal with gluten intolerance with another 1% suffering from Celiac disease, a severe gastrointestinal disorder caused by the digestion of gluten. This subset of individuals require a gluten-free option and should be considered at lunchtime meals.

SECTION 3: Gluten-free meals are not necessarily more expensive than the standard, already-produced ones. Replacing a proportion of meals with gluten-free meals will not be a guaranteed additional expense.

SECTION 4: Students are already very stressed with day to day school life. Having another stressor about access to safe food is unnecessary. Students should have the ability to focus on school and not worry about what they eat at school.

SECTION 5: Many students, especially younger ones do not fully understand their intolerance or disorder. Having access to a secure meal will ensure that students do not risk their health in their learning environment.

SECTION 6: This ACT will be effective upon passage.