

**Testimony in Support of HB 5432**

**An Act Expanding Health Insurance Coverage of Specialized Formula for Children  
with Eosinophilic Disorders**

**Insurance and Real Estate Committee**

**February 19, 2013**

My name is Zane Abdelsadek. I am six years old and I live in Westport, CT. I have a disease called eosinophilic esophagitis. Esophagitis means that my esophagus is swollen. Eosinophils are white blood cells that attack things that are bad for my body. My white blood cells think food is bad and attacks my digestive system when I eat.

If I eat food I can vomit, stop breathing, get bad tummy aches and get very sick. I have had four surgeries and have been under general anesthesia more than twenty times. I get almost all of my nutrition from medical food through my feeding tube. It is pure amino acids so I don't get sick. I need medical food because it helps me to grow big and healthy. I need it to live. Please vote to expand medical food coverage.

Thank you.

Zane Abdelsadek  
Westport, CT