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Health and Government Operations Committee



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## THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES Annapolis, Maryland 21401

February 21, 2024

Delegate Joseline Pena- Melnyk
Chair
House Health and Government Operations Committee
HB 610- Food Service Facilities – Food Containing Insect Flour – Labeling

## **FAVORABLE**

Dear Chair Pena- Melnyk and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present **HB 610- Food Service Facilities – Food Containing Insect Flour – Labeling** 

As cricket flour and other insect-based foods become more prevalent, consumers must remain aware of the ingredients they are consuming so they can make educated decisions. To maintain their health and well-being, people must understand what goes into the food products they buy.

This legislation ensures that notification be placed on the menu if any item contains cricket flour.

While there may be many positive benefits to the addition of cricket flour as a sustainable source of protein, it is immensely important that consumers are informed about the ingredients in any food product. For those with allergies or dietary restrictions, this could pose a serious health risk if they unknowingly consume something with an insect-based ingredient.

Please give HB 610 a FAVORABLE report.

Matt Morgan

Thank you,

Delegate