

Good afternoon,

As a mom with two children who have life-threatening anaphylaxis allergies to peanuts and tree nuts I urge you to implement stronger regulations with regards to the travel industry.

Life-threatening allergies are a disability by definition and by nature. Accommodations should be made for passengers travelling with life-threatening allergies no differently than those passengers who require extra assistance due to their inability to walk, being hearing or vision impaired.

At a minimum, I strongly urge you to implement the following:

1. A general announcement to passengers travelling in the same vessel with an identified passenger with allergies to please refrain from eating that particular Allergen while in transit. For most people this is a deterrent to continue eating that particular food and is, if anything, a minor inconvenience. This is especially important when flying because of recirculated air, close proximity of passenger and the inability to land the aircraft in a quick manner while in flight should an emergency reaction occur.
2. Accommodations if on flight snacks are being provided that they do not contain the life-threatening food for that flight. Again due to the close proximity and contained vehicle, it requires special consideration.
3. Epinephrine should be available on all flights and staff should be adequately trained to administer an EpiPen should the need arise. This would be similar to having a AED in flight.

Living with allergies on a daily basis we understand that there is an inherent risk every day. These small but important changes help reduce the risk of an in-flight reaction and subsequent emergency situation. This is a benefit to the individual with the anaphylactic allergy as well as the company, passengers, and employees of the airline who all will be inconvenienced from a medical emergency in the plane requiring emergency landing, medical intervention, refueling, delayed/missed flights, lawsuits, etc.

Please consider the anaphylactic community and their human right to barrier free travel.

A concerned mom,

Darlene Losier

Sent to you with a smile :)