

**Onespot Allergy Founder, Elizabeth Goldenberg, provides the history, rules, and legislation regarding the proposed ban of peanuts from airplanes.**

*Elizabeth Goldenberg, the Founder of the food allergy safety products company Onespot Allergy, provides the history, rules, and legislation regarding the proposed ban of peanuts from airplanes.*

London, Ontario, Canada 29 June 2010 - The United States Department of Transportation (DOT) is considering several different measures to provide greater access to air travel for people with peanut allergies due to the significant number of children diagnosed with peanut allergies, some of whom do not fly because of health concerns related to peanut service on planes. The DOT definitions provide that passengers with severe peanut allergies qualify as disabled because the condition limits flying, a major life activity. The Air Carrier Access Act prohibits discrimination by U.S. and foreign airlines against passengers with disabilities.

DOT previously asked for guidance on this subject in 1998, but was directed by Congress to stop its activities or face a cutoff of funding for its Aviation Enforcement Office. The DOT and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000 was enacted, and section 346 states that none of the funds made available under that Act may be used to require or even suggest that airlines provide peanut-free buffer zones or otherwise restrict the distribution of peanuts.

This congressional prohibition was to remain in effect until 90 days after submission to the Congress of a peer-reviewed scientific study that determined that there are severe reactions by passengers to peanuts as a result of contact with very small airborne peanut particles of the kind that passengers might encounter in an aircraft. DOT referred to this in its initial request for comments, which you can [read here](#).

Last week, [this article](#) appeared in the press titled "DOT Backs Off On Proposed Peanut Ban". This spread across Twitter and Facebook pages where people seemed to accept this "news" with resignation. In fact, the article contained no new information.

DOT has not dropped the ball or backed down. The Department acknowledged the Appropriations Act restriction themselves in their initial call for comments, and stated that the ban had not appeared recently in any legislation leading them to again consider providing greater access to air travel for the peanut allergic.

DOT continues to solicit public comments about peanuts on airplanes, and the Department will consider them and decide whether or not to propose a further review. The Department deserves our praise and recognition for taking this brave stance in support of the peanut allergic community.

About Elizabeth Goldenberg

Elizabeth Goldenberg is the Founder and President of the food allergy safety product company Onespot Allergy and the mother of two children, one of whom has severe food allergies. Elizabeth may be reached for comment at 519 433 8443 or toll free at 877 585 8433. You may also visit Onespot Allergy on the web <http://www.onespotallergy.com> , on Facebook

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