Dear (insert Representative’s name),

I am writing to you regarding **House bill 3515, the “Entrepreneur Freedom Act”** which would repeal, among other licenses and registrations, Chapter 20 of Title 40 relating to licensed dietitians.

**I am ADAMANTLY OPPOSED to H3515.**

I am writing as a Licensed Registered Dietitian in the State of South Carolina and as your constituent to vote NO on this upcoming bill.

Licensed Registered Dietitian’s provide tailored nutritional support through the use of **evidenced-based practice**. We incorporate successful strategies to improve patient outcomes which are derived from various sources of evidence including research, national guidelines, policies, consensus statements, systematic analysis of clinical research, quality improvement data, specialized knowledge and skills of experts.

Licensure ensure that qualifications and competencies are met to treat and prevent chronic disease, such as diabetes, heart disease, and hypertension, by providing **medical nutrition therapy (MNT).** MNT is reimbursable by Medicare for diagnosis of diabetes, non-dialysis kidney disease, and 36 month post kidney transplant when a Medicare beneficiary has been referred by a physician. MNT was established by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to help lower the nation’s healthcare costs. In South Carolina, 73.2% of Medicare-enrolled persons aged 65 and older have **2 or more chronic diseases** and in 2020, South Carolina had the **6th highest percent of adult population with diabetes in the United States**. Studies have demonstrated time and again that MNT delivered by a licensed registered dietitian is essential to successful chronic disease management and improved health outcomes.

Please do not allow this bill to gain any traction in our legislative bodies. Licensure protects the citizens of South Carolina and helps to ensure that health and nutrition providers are held to high standards.

If you need more information, please do not hesitate to reach out to me and I can recommend any number of resources to assist.

Sincerely,

(Insert Your Name)