

Thank you for your time and ear. My name is Dustin Amundson. I live in Bismarck (district 30). I am in favor of this bill and ask you to recommend it pass. While I appreciate governments concerns for my health, I would prefer to make those decisions myself. Unless you can guarantee that I will never get food poisoning from processed foods, I would prefer to choose which products to gamble my health on. Here is some language and a link to an article about a recent outbreak in processed products:

https://www.foodsafetynews.com/2024/12/over-2-million-cans-of-coconut-water-recalled-due-to-seal-compromise-concerns/#google_vignette

FROM THE ARTICLE:

Over 2 million cans of coconut water recalled due to seal compromise concerns

By News Desk on December 19, 2024

Tipp Distributors, Inc., doing business as Novamex, is recalling Jarritos Coconut Water 12-can cartons because the hermetic seal on the lid of the cans may be compromised.

The compromised hermetic seal may affect can integrity and may cause the cans to leak, bloat or allow bacteria, such as *Clostridium botulinum*, to grow inside the product which could lead to serious illness

According to the details published online by the Food and Drugs Administration (FDA), the recall was initiated on Nov. 4 and is ongoing.

The recalled product was distributed in Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Mississippi, North Carolina, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and Wisconsin.

Recalled product:

Jarritos Coconut Water 17.5 fl oz cans- 12 cans per carton

Product Quantity: 169,438 cases (2,033,256 cans)

Code Information: All lot codes

Retailers and consumers should not use, sell, serve or distribute the affected product.

About botulism poisoning

While a variety of illnesses can result from eating under-processed food, one of the most dangerous is botulism poisoning. Untreated, botulism can paralyze the muscles needed for breathing, resulting in sudden death.

Anyone who has developed signs of botulism poisoning should immediately seek medical attention, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

In foodborne botulism, symptoms generally begin 18 to 36 hours after eating contaminated food. However, symptoms can begin as soon as 6 hours after or up to 10 days later, according to the CDC website.

The symptoms of botulism may include some or all of the following: double vision, blurred vision, drooping eyelids, slurred speech, difficulty swallowing, difficulty breathing, a thick-feeling tongue, dry mouth, and muscle weakness. People with botulism poisoning may not show all of these symptoms at once.

These symptoms result from muscle paralysis caused by the toxin. If untreated, the disease may progress, and symptoms may worsen to cause paralysis of specific muscles, including those used in breathing and those in the arms, legs, and the body from the neck to the pelvis area.