



Proclamation

In Recognition of

Food Allergy Awareness Week

WHEREAS, as many as 15 million Americans have food allergies, and nearly 6 million are children under the age of 18; and

WHEREAS, research shows that the prevalence of food allergy is increasing among children; and

WHEREAS, food allergies can develop at any age; and

WHEREAS, the most common food allergens are eggs, cow's milk, tree nuts, soy, peanut, wheat and shellfish; and

WHEREAS, contact with a food allergen by eating, inhaling or skin contact causes allergic reactions within several minutes to several hours after food exposure; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of a food-allergic reaction include hives, sneezing, wheezing, vomiting, diarrhea, cramps, breathing difficulty, fainting and dizziness; and

WHEREAS, anaphylaxis is a rapid life-threatening allergic reaction involving combined symptoms such as swollen lips or hives with a drop in blood pressure, difficulty breathing, vomiting, cramps or diarrhea; and

WHEREAS, food-allergic reactions result in more than 200,000 emergency department visits yearly with a 377 percent increase in medical procedures associated with anaphylaxis; and

WHEREAS, in the case of anaphylaxis, a dose of epinephrine (such as an EpiPen auto injector) is necessary to open airways, increase the heart rate and constrict blood vessels; and

WHEREAS, strict avoidance of food allergens is the only way to prevent an allergic reaction since there is no cure for food allergies;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, DOUGLAS S. CHIN, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim May 13 - 19, 2018 as

“FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS WEEK”

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in recognizing the daily struggles of people with food allergies, promote food safety for people with allergies in restaurants, schools and other public venues, and learn how to handle emergencies involving allergic reactions.

DONE at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this ninth day of May 2018.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

DOUGLAS S. CHIN
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i