



# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, as many as 32 million Americans have food allergies, including nearly 6 million children under the age of 18; and

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

**WHEREAS**, food allergy reactions typically occur when an individual unknowingly eats a food containing an ingredient to which they are allergic or food that was cross contaminated during preparation; and

**WHEREAS**, food allergy reactions may be mild or as severe as anaphylaxis which is rapid in onset and life-threatening; and

**WHEREAS**, food allergy results in more than 200,000 U.S. emergency room visits each year; and

**WHEREAS**, nine foods or ingredients cause most of all food allergy reactions in the United States—shellfish, fish, cow's milk, eggs, tree nuts, peanuts, soy, wheat (gluten) and sesame; and

**WHEREAS**, common symptoms of allergic food reactions include swelling, hives, itching, shortness of breath, stomach pain, dizziness, fainting and even vomiting;

**THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor** of the **State of Hawai'i**, do hereby proclaim May 9–15, 2021 as

## **“FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS WEEK”**

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in raising awareness of the severity of food allergies and anaphylaxis, know how to identify reactions, and take care to create safer environments for those with food allergies.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this sixth day of April 2021

  
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DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i