



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, it is estimated that between 15 and 32 million Americans have food allergies; including nearly 6 million who are children under the age of 18; and

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

WHEREAS, eight foods cause the majority of all food allergy reactions in the U.S.: shellfish, fish, milk, eggs, tree nuts, peanuts, soy, and wheat; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of a food-allergic reaction can include hives, vomiting, diarrhea, respiratory distress, and swelling of the throat; and

WHEREAS, food allergies result in hundreds of thousands of Emergency Department visits each year; and

WHEREAS, reactions typically occur when an individual unknowingly eats a food containing an ingredient to which they are allergic; and

WHEREAS, there is no cure for food allergy and avoidance of the offending food is the only way to prevent an allergic reaction; and

WHEREAS, anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction that is rapid in onset and may cause death; and

WHEREAS, Food Allergy Research & Education (FARE) is a national, nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life and the health of individuals with food allergies, and to provide them hope through the promise of new treatments;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the week of May 12-18, 2019 as

Food Allergy Awareness Week

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this twenty-ninth day of March, 2019.

Bill Lee

Governor

Joe Reger

Secretary of State