



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 May 9 – May 15, 2021 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 twelfth day of February, 2021.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Lu Hargett*

Secretary of State