



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, as many as 15 million Americans have food allergies, including as many as one in every 13 children, or roughly two children per classroom; and

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

WHEREAS, eight foods cause 90% of all food allergy reactions in the United States- 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, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, food allergy results in more than 300,000 ambulatory care visits a year involving children under 18, with reactions typically occurring 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 scientists do not understand why; and

WHEREAS, strict 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 & Awareness (FARE) is a national, nonprofit organization dedicated to raising awareness about food allergy and anaphylaxis; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the week of May 11-17, 2014, 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 March, 2014.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Bill Haslam".

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Joe Vignetti".

Secretary of State