

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: As many as fifteen million Americans have food allergies; nearly six million 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 ninety percent of all food allergy reactions in the United States: shellfish, fish, milk, eggs, tree nuts, peanuts, soy and wheat. 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; and

WHEREAS: Reactions typically occur when an individual unknowingly eats a food containing an ingredient to which they are allergic. Anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction that is rapid in onset and may cause death; and

WHEREAS: Food Allergy Research and 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, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim May 10 through 16, 2015, as

FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS WEEK

across the State of Arkansas, and I urge all my fellow citizens to raise public awareness of this potentially lethal threat and to support precautionary measures to ensure the safety of our susceptible children and adults.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 28th day of April, in the year of our Lord 2015.



Asa Hutchinson

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Mark Martin

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State