

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**  
**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: As many as 32 million Americans have food allergies, with nearly six million of those being 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. Symptoms of a food-allergic reaction can range from mild to severe, such as anaphylaxis; and

WHEREAS: Anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction that is rapid in onset and may cause death; and

WHEREAS: Food allergy results in more than 200,000 emergency department visits each year. Reactions typically occur when an individual unknowingly eats a food containing an ingredient to which they are allergic; and

WHEREAS: The number of food allergy reactions requiring emergency treatment has risen sharply over the past decade, with a 377 percent rise in insurance claim lines with diagnoses of anaphylactic food reactions between 2007 and 2016;

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 12<sup>th</sup> through May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019, as

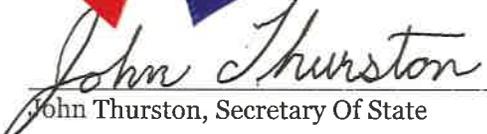
**FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS WEEK**

across the State, and I encourage all citizens to increase their understanding and awareness of food allergies and anaphylaxis.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, in the year of our Lord 2019.



  
Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Att  
  
John Thurston, Secretary Of State