

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 584

Expressing support for the designation of May 11, 2014, through May 17, 2014, as Food Allergy Awareness Week.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 13, 2014

Mr. ISRAEL (for himself, Mr. McCAUL, and Mr. RYAN of Ohio) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the designation of May 11, 2014, through May 17, 2014, as Food Allergy Awareness Week.

Whereas as many as 15,000,000 people in the United States, including nearly 6,000,000 children under the age of 18, have food allergies, which are potentially life-threatening;

Whereas data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) shows a 50-percent increase in the prevalence of food allergies in children under age 18 from 1997 to 2011;

Whereas there is no cure for food allergy and limited understanding of the underlying reasons for the increase in prevalence of food allergies among children;

Whereas 8 foods, shellfish, fish, milk, eggs, tree nuts, peanuts, soy, and wheat, cause 90 percent of all food allergy reactions in the United States;

Whereas strict avoidance of offending foods is the only way to prevent an allergic reaction;

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

Whereas the symptoms of a food-allergic reaction can include hives, vomiting, respiratory distress, swelling of the throat, anaphylaxis, and death;

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

Whereas according to the CDC, food allergy results in more than 300,000 ambulatory care visits a year involving children under age 18;

Whereas those with food allergies and parents of children with food allergies develop plans for food allergy management that include prompt access to epinephrine;

Whereas Food Allergy Research & Education (FARE), a national, nonprofit organization dedicated to finding a cure for food allergies, and to keep individuals with food allergies safe and included, recognizes and supports Food Allergy Awareness Week during May of every calendar year;

Whereas outreach and education to the public may improve the response to an allergic reaction;

Whereas public awareness of food allergies may also enhance the commitment to research to understand the causes for food allergies and interventions for allergic reaction; and

Whereas this year Food Allergy Awareness Week is recognized during the week of May 11, 2014, through May 17, 2014: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the designation of Food Allergy
3 Awareness Week;

4 (2) encourages the President to issue a procla-
5 mation in support of the goals and ideals of Food
6 Allergy Awareness Week;

7 (3) encourages States, territories, possessions of
8 the United States, and localities to support the goals
9 and ideals of Food Allergy Awareness Week;

10 (4) encourages media organizations to partici-
11 pate in Food Allergy Awareness Week and help edu-
12 cate the public about food allergies;

13 (5) recognizes and reaffirms the Nation’s com-
14 mitment to research the causes of food allergies,
15 interventions for allergic reactions, and the best way
16 to prevent individuals from having reactions; and

17 (6) recognizes all people in the United States
18 living with food allergies, expresses gratitude to their
19 family members and friends who are a source of love
20 and protection to them, and salutes the health care
21 professionals, teachers, and other caregivers and

- 1 medical researchers who provide assistance to those
- 2 so affected.

