

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 721

Expressing support for the designation of May 8, 2016, through May 14, 2016, as Food Allergy Awareness Week.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 10, 2016

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

RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the designation of May 8, 2016, through May 14, 2016, 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 research shows that the prevalence of food allergy is increasing among children;

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 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, food allergy results in more than 200,000 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 improving the quality of life and the health of individuals with food allergies, and to provide them hope through the promise of new treatments, 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 8, 2016, through May 14, 2016: 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 proclamation in support of the goals and ideals of Food
5 Allergy Awareness Week;

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

9 (4) encourages media organizations to participate in Food Allergy Awareness Week and help educate the public about food allergies;

10 (5) recognizes and reaffirms the Nation’s commitment to research the causes of food allergies,
11 interventions for allergic reactions, and the best way
12 to prevent individuals from having reactions; and

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

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

