



ACR-232 Food Allergy Awareness Week. (2017-2018)

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 232

CHAPTER 97

Relative to Food Allergy Awareness Week.

[Filed with Secretary of State June 13, 2018.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 232, Baker. Food Allergy Awareness Week.

This measure would declare the week of May 13 to May 19, 2018, inclusive, as Food Allergy Awareness Week, and encourage Californians to increase their understanding and awareness of food allergies and anaphylaxis.

Fiscal Committee: no

WHEREAS, As many as 15 million people in the United States have a food allergy; and

WHEREAS, Research indicates the prevalence of food allergies is increasing among children. Nearly six million children under 18 years of age have a food allergy; and

WHEREAS, The eight foods that cause the majority of all food allergy reactions in the United States are fish, shellfish, milk, eggs, tree nuts, peanuts, soy, and wheat; and

WHEREAS, Symptoms of a food-allergic reaction include hives, vomiting, diarrhea, respiratory distress, and swelling of the throat; and

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

WHEREAS, According to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, food allergies result in more than 200,000 ambulatory care visits a year involving children under 18 years of age. The number of food-allergic reactions requiring emergency treatment has sharply increased over the last decade with a 377 percent rise in individuals receiving medical treatment for anaphylaxis. Reactions typically occur when an individual unknowingly eats a food containing an ingredient to which he or she is allergic; and

WHEREAS, There is no cure for food allergies and scientists do not understand why this is so. Strict avoidance of the offending food is the only way to prevent an allergic reaction; and

WHEREAS, Food Allergy Research and Education is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life and the health of individuals with food allergies, and to providing them with hope through the promise of new treatments; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That May 13 to May 19, 2018, inclusive, is hereby proclaimed Food Allergy Awareness Week in California; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature of the State of California encourages the residents of this state to increase their understanding and awareness of food allergies and anaphylaxis by visiting foodallergyweek.org; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.