

**State of Vermont**  
**Executive Department**  
**A Proclamation**

**WHEREAS**, as many as 15 million Americans have food allergies; nearly 6 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 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 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 200,000 ambulatory care visits a year involving children under 18. Reactions typically occur when an individual unknowingly eats a food containing an ingredient to which they are allergic; and

**WHEREAS**, there is no cure for food allergy, and scientists do not understand why. Strict avoidance of the offending food is the only way to prevent an allergic reaction; and

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

**WHEREAS**, Food Allergy Research & Education (FARE) is a national, nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life and health of individuals with food allergies, and to provide them hope through the promise of new treatments;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 8-14, 2016 as

**FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS WEEK**

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of  
Vermont on this \_\_\_\_ day of March, A.D. 2016

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Peter Shumlin", followed by a long horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin  
Governor