WHEREAS, approximately 32 million Americans have food allergies, with nearly 6 million kids under the age of 18 suffering from food allergies; and

WHEREAS, research shows that the prevalence of food allergy is increasing among children and adults; and

WHEREAS, eight foods cause the majority of all food allergy reactions in the United States, including: shellfish, fish, milk, eggs, tree nuts, peanuts, soy, and wheat and symptoms of a food-allergic reaction can range from mild to severe, including anaphylaxis, which 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, many of these reactions 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 increased sharply over the past decade, with a 377 percent rise in insurance claim lines with diagnoses of anaphylactic food reactions between 2007 and 2016; and

WHEREAS, Food Allergy Research & Education is 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;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the state of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim the week of May 12-18, 2019 as

FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS WEEK

throughout the state of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all of our citizens.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the state of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the city of Madison this 2nd day of May 2019.

TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State