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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 222      Session of  
2007

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INTRODUCED BY M. SMITH, READSHAW, ARGALL, BELFANTI, BEYER, BIANCUCCI, BISHOP, BOYD, CALTAGIRONE, CAUSER, CLYMER, COHEN, COSTA, CREIGHTON, CURRY, DIGIROLAMO, FABRIZIO, FRANKEL, FREEMAN, GEIST, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GILLESPIE, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HARRIS, HENNESSEY, HESS, JAMES, KIRKLAND, KORTZ, KOTIK, KULA, LEACH, MAHONEY, MAJOR, MANTZ, MARSICO, MILLARD, MUNDY, MURT, MUSTIO, NAILOR, M. O'BRIEN, PALLONE, PARKER, PHILLIPS, RAMALEY, RAPP, ROSS, SAINATO, SCAVELLO, SIPTROTH, MCILVAINE SMITH, K. SMITH, SOLOBAY, SONNEY, R. STEVENSON, THOMAS, VEREB, VULAKOVICH, J. WHITE, WOJNAROSKI AND YOUNGBLOOD, APRIL 18, 2007

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
APRIL 18, 2007

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the week of May 13 through 19, 2007, as "Food  
2 Allergy Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Food allergy reactions cause 30,000 visits to the  
4 emergency room and 150 deaths each year when individuals  
5 unknowingly eat a food containing an ingredient to which they  
6 are allergic; and

7 WHEREAS, Children are the largest group affected by food  
8 allergies; and

9 WHEREAS, Researchers estimate that approximately 12 million  
10 Americans have food allergies; and

11 WHEREAS, Food allergy symptoms can include hives, vomiting,  
12 diarrhea, respiratory distress and swelling of the throat; and

13 WHEREAS, Ninety percent of all food allergy reactions involve

1 shellfish, fish, milk, eggs, tree nuts, peanuts, soy or wheat;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, There is no cure for potentially fatal food  
4 allergies and strict avoidance of the allergenic food is the  
5 only way to prevent a reaction; and

6 WHEREAS, Anaphylaxis resulting from a food allergy produces a  
7 sudden, severe, potentially fatal systemic reaction that can  
8 involve various areas of the body such as the skin, respiratory  
9 tract, gastrointestinal tract or cardiovascular system; and

10 WHEREAS, In severely allergic individuals, anaphylaxis can  
11 cause death in a matter of minutes; and

12 WHEREAS, Eating in restaurants and at schools poses the  
13 highest risk for people with food allergies; and

14 WHEREAS, Restaurant and cafeteria staff members are often not  
15 aware of the ingredients used in preparing the food and may not  
16 be prepared to handle a patron with an allergic reaction; and

17 WHEREAS, The Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Network (FAAN) is a  
18 national nonprofit organization dedicated to educating the  
19 public about food allergies and anaphylaxis; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
21 week of May 13 through 19, 2007, as "Food Allergy Awareness  
22 Week" in Pennsylvania.