

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 257 Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY DEASY, BAKER, BRADFORD, BRIGGS, V. BROWN,
CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, D. COSTA, CUTLER, DALEY, DIGIROLAMO,
EVERETT, FLECK, GEIST, GEORGE, GINGRICH, HARKINS, HARRIS,
HESS, KILLION, KORTZ, KOTIK, MAJOR, MANN, MATZIE, MICOZZIE,
MILLARD, MOUL, MURT, MUSTIO, M. O'BRIEN, ROSS, SAINATO,
SANTONI, SCAVELLO, M. SMITH, STABACK, STEVENSON, SWANGER,
VULAKOVICH, WATSON AND DONATUCCI, MAY 2, 2011

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, MAY 2,
2011

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the week of May 8 through 14, 2011, as "Food Allergy
2 Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Food allergy reactions cause 30,000 visits to
4 emergency rooms 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
14 shellfish, fish, milk, eggs, tree nuts, peanuts, soy or wheat;
15 and

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

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

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

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

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

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

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
19 week of May 8 through 14, 2011, as "Food Allergy Awareness Week"
20 in Pennsylvania.