

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** it is estimated that as many as 15 million Americans, including nearly 6 million children under the age of 18, have food allergies; and
- WHEREAS,** research shows that the prevalence of food allergy is increasing among children and, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, food allergy results in more than 300,000 ambulatory care visits a year involving children under 18; and
- WHEREAS,** 8 foods cause 90 percent of all food allergy reactions in the United States: shellfish, fish, milk, eggs, tree nuts, peanuts, soy, and wheat; and
- WHEREAS,** symptoms of a food-allergic reaction can include hives, vomiting, diarrhea, respiratory distress, and swelling of the throat; and
- WHEREAS,** food allergy is a leading cause of anaphylaxis, a sudden, severe reaction involving major organs in the body simultaneously that can result in death; and
- WHEREAS,** there is no cure for food allergy, making strict avoidance of the offending food the only way to prevent an allergic reaction; and
- WHEREAS,** educating restaurants, schools, and the general public about the serious and potentially life-threatening nature of food allergies can reduce the chances of severe reaction and loss of life.
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 12 - 18, 2013, as**

### FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to raise awareness of food allergies and anaphylaxis.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nikki R. Haley".

**NIKKI R. HALEY**  
**GOVERNOR**  
**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**