STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the number and severity of hospitalizations due to food allergies are greatly increasing; and

WHEREAS: Ninety percent of all food allergies in the United States are caused by eight major allergens: milk, eggs, fish, crustacean shellfish, tree nuts, wheat, peanuts, and soybeans; and

WHEREAS: Food allergy reactions can include hives; tingling or itchy sensations in the mouth; swelling of the throat, face, tongue, or lips; loss of consciousness; and even death; and

WHEREAS: Epinephrine, a drug comparable to the adrenaline produced by the body, is the only medication that can counteract the symptoms of severe allergic reactions, if administered promptly; and

WHEREAS: More than 200,000 Minnesotans have food allergies, including 30,000 elementary school students; and

WHEREAS: Managing food allergies is a challenge for cafeterias, restaurants, schools, and individuals.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of May 13-19, 2012 as:

FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS WEEK

in the State of Minnesota.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 7th day of May.

[Signature]
GOVERNOR

[Signature]
SECRETARY OF STATE