

Food Allergy Awareness Week Proclamation May 14-20, 2017

WHEREAS, Food Allergy Awareness Week was established as a national week of encouraging food allergy awareness and supporting those who are impacted by food allergies and anaphylaxis; and

WHEREAS, Food allergies affect approximately 15 million Americans, including 6 million children; and

WHEREAS, the prevalence of food allergies appears to be increasing among children under the age of 18, which is 2 students in every classroom; and WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), between 1997 and 2011, the prevalence of food allergies rose 50 percent and

WHEREAS, eight foods account for 90 percent of all food allergy reactions: Peanuts, Tree Nuts, Milk, Egg, Wheat, Soy, Fish and Shellfish. WHEREAS, a food allergy is an immune system response to a food the body mistakenly believes is harmful. When a person with food allergy eats the food, his or her immune system releases massive amounts of chemicals, including histamine, that trigger a cascade of symptoms that can affect the respiratory system, the gastrointestinal tract, the skin, and/or the cardiovascular system; and

WHEREAS, there is no cure for food allergies, strict avoidance is the only way to prevent an allergic reaction; and

WHEREAS, anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction that comes on quickly and has the potential to become life-threatening; and

WHEREAS, managing a food allergy on a daily basis involves constant vigilance and trace amounts of an allergen can trigger an allergic reaction in some individuals; and

WHEREAS, Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Connection Team (FAACT) is a national, nonprofit organization committed to their mission to educate, advocate, and raise awareness for all individuals and families affected by food allergies and life-threatening anaphylaxis; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael Holton, Mayor of the City of Iowa Colony, Texas do hereby proclaim May 14-20, 2017 as Food Allergy Awareness Week in the City of Iowa Colony, Texas, and encourage all residents to increase their understanding and awareness of this potentially life-threatening medical condition, improving the quality of life of the 15 million Americans affected by food allergies and anaphylaxis by visiting www.FoodAllergyAwareness.org.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Iowa Colony, Texas, to be affixed this 14th day of May 2017.

Michael Holton, MAYOR of Iowa Colony, Texas