

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: In the United States, food allergies affect approximately 15 million people, and 4-6 percent of children. Some allergens may be outgrown, while others persist throughout a lifetime; and

WHEREAS: While food allergies may develop at any age, most appear in early childhood. Research shows that the prevalence of food allergies is increasing among children; and

WHEREAS: The cause of this growing public health issue is unknown, and there is no known cure. The most effective treatment is avoidance of the allergen; and

WHEREAS: Eight types of food account for about 90 percent of all reactions: eggs, milk, peanuts, tree nuts, fish, shellfish, wheat and soy; and

WHEREAS: Symptoms of an allergic reaction may involve the skin, the gastrointestinal tract, the cardiovascular system and the respiratory tract. The most severe reaction is anaphylaxis, which is life-threatening and can impair breathing, cause a dramatic drop in blood pressure and affect heart rate; and

WHEREAS: According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, food allergy reactions result in 200,000 emergency visits a year by children under the age of 18; and

WHEREAS: National nonprofits like Food Allergy Research & Education (FARE) and Turn It Teal for Food Allergies are dedicated to improving the quality of life and the health of individuals with food allergies, and raising awareness for this increasingly prevalent health issue in the hopes that it leads to further research and treatment.

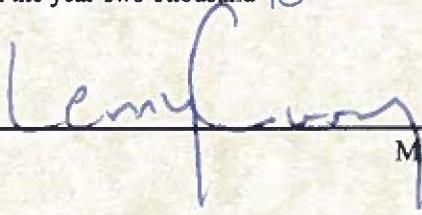
NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 13 - 19, 2018 as

FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS WEEK

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to learn about and recognize the needs of those with food allergies.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 8th day of May
in the year Two Thousand 18


MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA