
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO IMPLEMENT A PROGRAM TO
REQUIRE FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS TO POST NOTICES WARNING THAT
SOME FOOD PREPARED OR OFFERED FOR SALE FOR CONSUMPTION MAY
CONTAIN PEANUTS OR PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM PEANUTS.

1 WHEREAS, according to the Mayo Clinic, peanut allergy is
2 common and often appears in the first years of life; and

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4 WHEREAS, while many children outgrow allergies to other
5 foods such as milk or eggs, most children do not outgrow peanut
6 allergy as they get older; and

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8 WHEREAS, peanut allergy occurs when a person's immune
9 system develops allergy-type antibodies to peanut proteins and
10 mistakenly identifies the proteins as something harmful; and

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12 WHEREAS, an allergic reaction to peanuts can range from a
13 minor irritation to a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction
14 that constricts the airways and blocks breathing; and

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16 WHEREAS, even people who have only had a mild reaction in
17 the past are at risk of a more serious future reaction; and

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19 WHEREAS, exposure to peanuts that trigger peanut allergy
20 can occur in three ways, the most common of which is by direct
21 contact such as eating peanuts or peanut-containing foods; and

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23 WHEREAS, exposure can also occur via cross-contact when
24 peanuts are unintentionally introduced during processing or
25 handling of a food product; and

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27 WHEREAS, the least common type of contact is through
28 inhalation of dust or aerosols containing peanuts, such as
29 peanut flour or peanut oil cooking spray; and
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1 WHEREAS, individuals who may suffer serious harm through
2 inadvertent exposure to foods containing peanuts at food
3 establishments can very easily obtain relief if they are
4 informed prior to any exposure by the simple posting of warning
5 signs; now, therefore,
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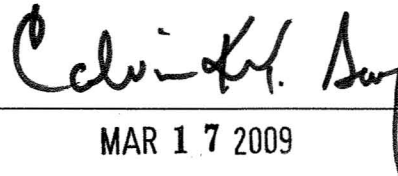
7 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
8 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
9 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Health is
10 urged to take positive steps to protect individuals from peanut
11 allergy in food establishments; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department is specifically
14 requested to implement a program to require:
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- 16 (1) All food establishments in the State, if the
17 establishment prepares or offers food that contains
18 peanuts or products derived from peanuts for human
19 consumption, to post a notice stating that some food
20 prepared or offered for sale for consumption may
21 contain peanuts or products derived from peanuts;
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- 23 (2) That the notice may be either a stand-alone sign
24 conspicuously displayed in plain view of customers of
25 the food establishment or a statement printed on each
26 menu of the food establishment;
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- 28 (3) Inspection of the posting requirement by a registered
29 sanitarian; and
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- 31 (4) Penalties to be imposed for violations; and
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
34 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health.
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OFFERED BY:


MAR 17 2009

