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## HOUSE 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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31           WHEREAS, individuals who may suffer serious harm through  
32 inadvertent exposure to foods containing peanuts at food  
33 establishments can very easily obtain relief if they are



1 informed prior to any exposure by the simple posting of warning  
2 signs; now, therefore,  
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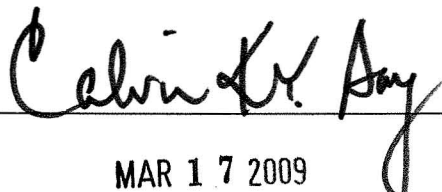
4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
5 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
6 of 2009, that the Department of Health is urged to take positive  
7 steps to protect individuals from peanut allergy in food  
8 establishments; and  
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department is specifically  
11 requested to implement a program to require:  
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- 13 (1) All food establishments in the State, if the  
14 establishment prepares or offers food that contains  
15 peanuts or products derived from peanuts for human  
16 consumption, to post a notice stating that some food  
17 prepared or offered for sale for consumption may  
18 contain peanuts or products derived from peanuts;  
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- 20 (2) That the notice may be either a stand-alone sign  
21 conspicuously displayed in plain view of customers of  
22 the food establishment or a statement printed on each  
23 menu of the food establishment;  
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- 25 (3) Inspection of the posting requirement by a registered  
26 sanitarian; and  
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- 28 (4) Penalties to be imposed for violations; and  
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
31 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health.  
32  
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34

OFFERED BY:

  
MAR 17 2009

