



PROCLAMATION

May 6, 2025

RECOGNIZING MAY AS CELIAC AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, celiac disease is a serious genetic autoimmune disorder triggered by the consumption of gluten, a protein found in wheat, barley, and rye, affecting an estimated 1 in 133 people worldwide, many of whom remain undiagnosed; and

WHEREAS, undiagnosed and untreated celiac disease can lead to significant health complications, including damage to the small intestine, malnutrition, anemia, osteoporosis, infertility, neurological issues, and an increased risk of certain cancers; and

WHEREAS, the only current treatment for celiac disease is a strict, lifelong gluten-free diet, requiring significant lifestyle adjustments and ongoing vigilance in food selection and preparation; and

WHEREAS, increasing public awareness and understanding of celiac disease is crucial for promoting early diagnosis, improving the quality of life for individuals living with this condition, and supporting their families; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the challenges faced by individuals with celiac disease and fostering supportive environments in schools, workplaces, restaurants, and communities is essential for their well-being and full participation in society; and

WHEREAS, Celiac Awareness Month provides a valuable opportunity to educate the public about the symptoms, diagnosis, and management of celiac disease, and to highlight the importance of research and support for those affected; and

WHEREAS, King George County is committed to promoting the health and well-being of all its residents, including those living with celiac disease.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the King George County Board of Supervisors that the month of May 2025 be recognized as Celiac Awareness Month in King George County, Virginia, and that residents are encouraged to participate in activities and initiatives that promote celiac awareness, understanding, acceptance, and inclusion throughout the month of May and beyond.

ADOPTED this sixth day of May 2025 by the King George County Board of Supervisors.

William S. Davis, Chairman

P-03-2025