

*State of New Hampshire*  
*By His Excellency*  
*John H. Lynch, Governor*

*A Proclamation*

**CELIAC DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH**  
**MAY 2009**

**WHEREAS**, Millions of individuals and their family members are facing the challenges of living with Celiac Disease; and

**WHEREAS**, Celiac Disease is a lifelong autoimmune intestinal disorder, found in individuals who are genetically susceptible. People with the disease cannot tolerate certain proteins (Gluten) found in common cereal grains such as wheat, barley and rye; and

**WHEREAS**, When a person with Celiac Disease eats foods containing these proteins, their immune system responds by damaging the small intestine, which can lead to malnourishment. If left untreated, this damage can be chronic and life-threatening; and

**WHEREAS**, Celiac Disease affects 1 in 133 Americans and is the most common autoimmune disease in the United States, according to the Celiac Disease Foundation; and

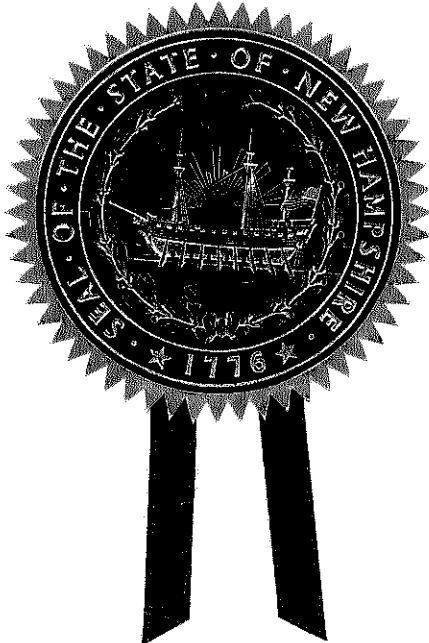
**WHEREAS**, Max Renke, a young New Hampshire native, has used his personal experience with Celiac Disease to work tirelessly to raise greater awareness around the disease. He was instrumental in the passage of federal legislation regarding food labeling and continues to work in the political arena to spread his message and ideas. Max is a prime example of how one person can make a difference in the lives of many; and

**WHEREAS**, It is important that schools offer gluten-free lunches to accommodate the dietary needs of students' with Celiac Disease; and

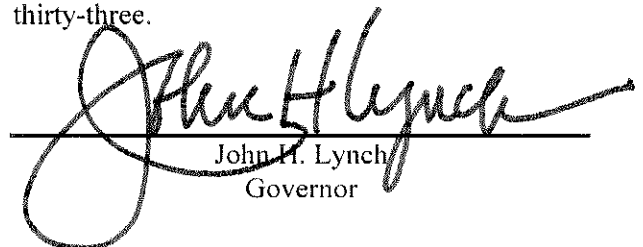
**WHEREAS**, Greater knowledge, research and awareness around Celiac Disease is still necessary. According to the Celiac Disease Foundation, for every person that is diagnosed there are at least 89 who go undiagnosed for years; and

**WHEREAS**, **Celiac Disease Awareness Month** provides an opportunity to recognize individuals and their families whose lives have been affected by this disease, honor dedicated health professionals and researchers and raise public awareness;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN H. LYNCH, GOVERNOR** of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby proclaim **MAY 2009** as **CELIAC DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH** in New Hampshire.



Given at the Executive Chamber in Concord,  
this 6<sup>th</sup> day of April, in the year of Our Lord two  
thousand and nine, and the independence of the  
United States of America, two hundred and  
thirty-three.

  
John H. Lynch  
Governor