
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 417 Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY MYERS, MURT, PARKER AND J. EVANS,
SEPTEMBER 28, 2011

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
SEPTEMBER 28, 2011

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing September 2011 as "Hunger Action Month" in
2 Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, September 2011 has been designated as "Hunger Action
4 Month" to provide an opportunity for communities in the United
5 States to unite to focus attention on the persistent problem of
6 domestic hunger; and

7 WHEREAS, For one in five Pennsylvanians, hunger is a reality;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Many households in the United States experience
10 hunger, and some people in these households frequently skip
11 meals or eat too little, sometimes going without food for a
12 whole day; and

13 WHEREAS, In 2009, 14.7% of households in the United States
14 were food insecure, meaning their access to enough food was
15 limited by a lack of money and other resources, and this was
16 the highest recorded rate of food insecurity since 1995 when the
17 first national food security survey was conducted; and

1 WHEREAS, In 2011, 1,690,430 Pennsylvanians were food
2 insecure; and

3 WHEREAS, In 2011, over 21% of Pennsylvania's children
4 experienced food insecurity; and

5 WHEREAS, Members of these households have lower-quality diets
6 or must resort to seeking emergency food because they cannot
7 always afford the food they need; and

8 WHEREAS, The costs of other essentials, such as home heating,
9 gasoline, housing and medical care, have increased
10 significantly, and for families caught in the squeeze between
11 declining wages and rising costs, the food budget becomes a
12 frequent pressure point; and

13 WHEREAS, Utilization of emergency food assistance becomes a
14 way for these families to keep food on the table while still
15 paying their bills for other essentials; and

16 WHEREAS, Food banks, food rescue organizations, soup
17 kitchens, food pantries, faith-based organizations, businesses
18 and individuals are donating time, raising funds and giving food
19 to help their neighbors; and

20 WHEREAS, Individuals benefiting from the availability of
21 donated food range from infants and toddlers, school-age
22 children and adolescents to single parents, single fathers, two-
23 parent families, veterans and their families and seniors; and

24 WHEREAS, Research shows that preschool and school-age
25 children who experience severe hunger have higher levels of
26 chronic illness, anxiety and depression and behavioral problems
27 than children with no hunger; therefore be it

28 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize
29 September 2011 as "Hunger Action Month" in Pennsylvania.