

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 989 Session of  
2020

INTRODUCED BY WHEATLEY, HILL-EVANS, GALLOWAY, MURT, BURNS,  
INNAMORATO, HOWARD, LONGIETTI, CIRESI, KULIK, KINSEY,  
McCLINTON, McNEILL, DRISCOLL, HARRIS, STURLA, GREEN, SANCHEZ,  
PASHINSKI, ROZZI, READSHAW, ULLMAN, MENTZER, DEASY AND  
SCHLOSSBERG, SEPTEMBER 1, 2020

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
SEPTEMBER 1, 2020

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of September 2020 as "Hunger Action Month"  
2 in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, September 2020 has been designated as "Hunger Action  
4 Month" to provide a unified opportunity for communities in the  
5 United States to focus attention on the persistent problem of  
6 domestic hunger and to mobilize and create a movement to help  
7 end hunger in America; and

8 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Agriculture gathers  
9 information and provides statistics related to domestic hunger;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, According to Feed America's 2018 Map the Meal Gap  
12 study, Pennsylvania's food insecurity rate was 10.9%, including  
13 1.5 million Pennsylvanians struggling to put food on the table  
14 or living in a household where food is scarce; and

15 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's food insecurity rate is projected to  
16 increase to 15.9%, including more than 2 million food insecure

1   Pennsylvanians, as a result of temporary unemployment due to the  
2   coronavirus pandemic; and

3       WHEREAS, Many Pennsylvania households experience hunger, and  
4   some people in these households frequently skip meals or eat too  
5   little, sometimes going without food for a whole day; and

6       WHEREAS, In a typical year, Feeding Pennsylvania food banks  
7   serve nearly 2 million Pennsylvanians annually, including nearly  
8   630,000 children who do not know where their next meal will come  
9   from; and

10      WHEREAS, Due to the alarming increase in food insecurity  
11   during the coronavirus pandemic, the members of Feeding  
12   Pennsylvania served more than 5.5 million Pennsylvanians in just  
13   a three-month period through its network of food pantries, soup  
14   kitchens, shelters and other community organizations; and

15      WHEREAS, The costs of other essentials, such as home heating,  
16   housing and medical care, have increased significantly, and for  
17   families caught in the squeeze between declining wages and  
18   rising costs, the food budget becomes a frequent pressure point;  
19   and

20      WHEREAS, Utilization of emergency food assistance becomes a  
21   way for these individuals and families to keep food on the table  
22   while still paying the bills; and

23      WHEREAS, Individuals, charities, businesses and the  
24   government all have a role to play in getting food to those in  
25   need; and

26      WHEREAS, Food banks, food rescue organizations, soup  
27   kitchens, food pantries, faith-based organizations, businesses  
28   and individuals are donating time, raising funds and giving food  
29   to help their neighbors; and

30      WHEREAS, Pennsylvanians benefiting from the nutrition

1 assistance programs and services range from infants and toddlers  
2 to school-age children and adolescents, single parents, two-  
3 parent families, veterans and their families, people with  
4 disabilities and seniors; therefore be it

5       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
6 month of September 2020 as "Hunger Action Month" in  
7 Pennsylvania.