A RESOLUTION

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's food insecurity rate is projected to increase to 15.9%, including more than 2 million food insecure
Pennsylvanians, as a result of temporary unemployment due to the coronavirus pandemic; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, Pennsylvanians benefiting from the nutrition...
assistance programs and services range from infants and toddlers to school-age children and adolescents, single parents, two-parent families, veterans and their families, people with disabilities and seniors; therefore be it

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