

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, The costs of other essentials, such as home heating, gasoline, 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 families to keep food on the table while still paying their bills for other essentials; 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, Individuals benefiting from the availability of donated food range from infants and toddlers, school-age children and adolescents to single parents, single fathers, two-parent families, veterans and their families and seniors; and

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

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