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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1047 Session of  
2018

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INTRODUCED BY WHEATLEY, BIZZARRO, THOMAS, HENNESSEY, J. McNEILL,  
READSHAW, NEILSON, KINSEY, BURNS, MILLARD, DIGIROLAMO, DUSH,  
SONNEY, HILL-EVANS, A. DAVIS, COX, MURT, ROEBUCK,  
SCHLOSSBERG, LONGIETTI, YOUNGBLOOD, EVERETT, DRISCOLL,  
CALTAGIRONE, WATSON, MENTZER, MARSICO AND KIRKLAND,  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of September 2018 as "Hunger Action Month"  
2 in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, September 2018 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 mobilize efforts to help end hunger in  
7 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 a study published by Feeding America,  
12 in 2016, approximately 12.5% or 1.6 million Pennsylvanians,  
13 including 452,690 children, did not always know where they would  
14 find their next meal; and

15 WHEREAS, Many Pennsylvania households experience hunger, and

1 some people in these households frequently skip meals or eat too  
2 little, sometimes going without food for a whole day; and

3 WHEREAS, Research shows that preschool and school-age  
4 children who experience severe hunger have higher levels of  
5 chronic illness, anxiety, depression and behavioral problems  
6 than children receiving a well-balanced diet; and

7 WHEREAS, Food-insecure senior citizens have lower nutrient  
8 intakes than food-secure senior citizens and, without proper  
9 nutrients, senior citizens are at increased risk of disability,  
10 deteriorated health conditions, decreased resistance to  
11 infections, lengthened hospital stays, deteriorated mental  
12 health and being underweight; and

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

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

21 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania food banks serve approximately 2  
22 million people annually, including more than 482,000 children  
23 and more than 246,000 senior citizens; and

24 WHEREAS, Individuals, charities, businesses and government  
25 all have a role to play in getting food to those in 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 to single parents, two-  
3 parent families, veterans and their families, people with  
4 disabilities and senior citizens; therefore be it

5       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the  
6 month of September 2018 as "Hunger Action Month" in  
7 Pennsylvania.