

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 181

BY REPRESENTATIVES SIMON, BROADWATER, AND HOFFMANN

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Children and Family Services, the division of administration, and the office of the governor to work with the Louisiana Food Bank Association to ensure the acquisition and distribution of sufficient food to hungry Louisiana citizens, particularly children and the elderly.

WHEREAS, food banks utilize public-private partnerships at the local, state, and federal levels to provide high quality, nutritious food to Louisianians in need of food assistance, partner with schools to provide food to children most at risk for hunger, and respond quickly in times of disaster; and

WHEREAS, the network of faith-based and nonprofit organizations served by Louisiana food banks includes over four hundred worthy organizations such as churches, Councils on Aging, Boys Hope Girls Hope, the Salvation Army, and learning centers throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Food Bank Association was formed in 2007 to coordinate the efforts of Louisiana's five regional food banks to alleviate hunger across the state; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's five regional food banks distribute over fifty million pounds of food annually to six hundred ninety-five thousand people in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, one in seven people in Louisiana has used food banks in a time of need; and

WHEREAS, twenty-five percent of persons who utilize Louisiana food banks are over the age of sixty-five; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana has the highest rate of children under the age of five at risk of hunger in the United States; and

WHEREAS, economic struggles have increased the reliance of families upon food banks to support their needs, but federal food resources through the Emergency Supplemental Food Program have decreased with rising costs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Children and Family Services, the division of administration, and the office of the governor to work with the Louisiana Food Bank Association to ensure the acquisition and distribution of sufficient food to hungry Louisiana citizens, particularly children and the elderly.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES