

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION 22

By: Kirt of the Senate

and

Pae of the House

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution recognizing March 29, 2022, as Anti-Hunger Day in Oklahoma; praising the work of the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma and Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Oklahoma has the fourth highest food insecurity rate in the nation according to the USDA, and consistently ranks as one of the highest for child food insecurity, and among the top ten nationwide for food insecurity among adults and seniors, meaning these individuals lack consistent access to enough food for an active healthy life; and

WHEREAS, nearly 15% of Oklahoma households experienced hunger in 2020, ranking the state behind Mississippi, West Virginia, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, for more than 40 years, the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma and the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma (the Oklahoma Food Banks) have led the charge to provide nutritious food

1 and pathways to self-sufficiency for Oklahomans facing hunger,
2 becoming the state's largest domestic hunger-relief nonprofit
3 organizations; and

4 WHEREAS, the majority of people served by the Oklahoma Food
5 Banks are chronically hungry children, seniors living on fixed
6 incomes, post-secondary learners working to build skills for the
7 workforce, and hardworking families struggling to make ends meet;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, through their networks of more than 2,000 community-
10 based partner agencies and schools across all 77 counties in
11 Oklahoma, the Oklahoma Food Banks collectively distributed nearly
12 100 million pounds of food to Oklahomans from July 1, 2020, to June
13 30, 2021, which were record amounts from previous years; and

14 WHEREAS, for every dollar donated, Oklahoma Food Banks help
15 provide the equivalent of four meals for food-insecure Oklahomans;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, 96 cents of every \$1 donated goes toward programming,
18 food purchases, and serving neighbors; and

19 WHEREAS, in the years leading up to 2020, there was evidence
20 that the Oklahoma Food Banks were making strides in the fight
21 against hunger in the state. However, the economic impact of the
22 COVID-19 pandemic eliminated progress made in food insecurity rates
23 across the country including in Oklahoma; and

1 WHEREAS, as the state continues to recover from the pandemic,
2 the Oklahoma Food Banks will be on the frontlines working to make
3 Oklahoma food secure.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION
5 OF THE 58TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
6 CONCURRING THEREIN:

7 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature recognizes March 29, 2022,
8 as Anti-Hunger Day in Oklahoma.

9 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature praises the work of the
10 Oklahoma Food Banks for their dedication in helping address hunger.

11 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Community Food
12 Bank of Eastern Oklahoma Chief Executive Officer Calvin A. Moore and
13 Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma Chief Executive Officer Stacy
14 Dykstra.

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