THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

No. 157 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY VOGEL, KANE, SCHWANK, CAPPELLETTI, TARTAGLIONE, HAYWOOD, MARTIN, BREWSTER, HUGHES, FONTANA, BROWN, KEARNEY, COMITTA, COSTA, LAUGHLIN AND DUSH, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

A RESOLUTION

Recognizing the month of September 2023 as "Hunger Action Month" 1 in Pennsylvania. 2 3 WHEREAS, September 2023 has been designated nationwide as "Hunger Action Month" to raise awareness of the issue of hunger 4 5 and mobilize the public to help end hunger in America; and 6 WHEREAS, According to Feeding America, one in eleven 7 Pennsylvanians and one in eight children are food insecure; and 8 WHEREAS, Food insecurity, the condition of limited or 9 uncertain access to adequate food, is associated with numerous 10 adverse social and health outcomes and is a critical public health issue; and 11 12 WHEREAS, Children who experience hunger have higher levels of 13 chronic illness, anxiety, depression and behavioral problems 14 than children receiving a well-balanced diet; and 15 WHEREAS, Food-insecure older adults are at increased risk of 16 a range of physical and mental health conditions and 17 hospitalization; and

WHEREAS, Food insecurity is not discerning of whether
Pennsylvanians reside in urban or rural communities; and

3 WHEREAS, Current inflation rates for essentials are 4 compounding the economic challenges for many Pennsylvanians; and 5 WHEREAS, Hunger relief organizations, food banks and food 6 pantries throughout this Commonwealth are uniquely positioned to 7 help struggling individuals and families make ends meet and are 8 critical lifelines for nearly 2 million Pennsylvanians annually 9 but are increasingly stretched thin; and

10 WHEREAS, The fight against hunger requires engaging a wide 11 range of public and private entities, including policymakers, 12 business leaders, community activists, concerned citizens and 13 food-serving organizations; and

14 WHEREAS, Food banks, food rescue organizations, soup 15 kitchens, food pantries, faith-based organizations, businesses 16 and individuals are donating time, raising funds and giving food 17 to help their neighbors; therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of September 19 2023 as "Hunger Action Month" in Pennsylvania.

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