
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 195 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY SCARNATI, FONTANA, YAW, MARTIN, BARTOLOTTA,
BROOKS, BROWNE, LEACH, ARGALL, RESCHENTHALER, GREENLEAF,
YUDICHAK, FARNESE, BREWSTER, MENSCH, SABATINA, AUMENT,
RAFFERTY, COSTA AND FOLMER, SEPTEMBER 20, 2017

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, SEPTEMBER 20, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of September 2017 as "Hunger Action Month"
2 in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, September 2017 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 to mobilize to create a movement to help end
7 hunger in 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 2015, 1.67 million Pennsylvanians, including nearly half a
13 million children, did not always know where they would find
14 their next meal; and

15 WHEREAS, Many Pennsylvania households experience hunger, and
16 some people in these households frequently skip meals or eat too
17 little, sometimes going without food for a whole day; and

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

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

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

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

18 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania food banks serve more than 2 million
19 people annually, including more than 482,000 children and more
20 than 246,000 seniors; and

21 WHEREAS, Individuals, charities, businesses and government
22 all have a role to play in getting food to those in need; and

23 WHEREAS, Food banks, food rescue organizations, soup
24 kitchens, food pantries, faith-based organizations, businesses
25 and individuals are donating time, raising funds and giving food
26 to help their neighbors; and

27 WHEREAS, Pennsylvanians benefiting from the nutrition
28 assistance programs and services range from infants and toddlers
29 to school-age children and adolescents to single parents, two-
30 parent families, veterans and their families, people with

1 disabilities and seniors; therefore be it

2 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of September

3 2017 as "Hunger Action Month" in Pennsylvania.