## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 206

Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY CAPPELLETTI, NOVEMBER 15, 2023

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, NOVEMBER 15, 2023

## A RESOLUTION

- Recognizing the week of November 11 through 18, 2023, as "Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.
- 3 WHEREAS, For more than 25 years, the National Coalition for
- 4 the Homeless and National Student Campaign Against Hunger and
- 5 Homelessness have sponsored "National Hunger and Homelessness
- 6 Awareness Week"; and
- 7 WHEREAS, In 1975, Villanova University hosted the first
- 8 "National Hunger and Homelessness Week"; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Universities, colleges, high schools and
- 10 organizations across the United States host events in their
- 11 communities to increase awareness about the daily effects of
- 12 hunger and homelessness; and
- 13 WHEREAS, In this Commonwealth, approximately 12% of the
- 14 entire population lives in poverty, more than 15,000 people are
- 15 homeless and 1,136,400 people are facing hunger; and
- 16 WHEREAS, This week focuses on giving and caring the week
- 17 before Thanksqiving, and the observance serves as a reminder
- 18 that hunger and homelessness do not stop for the holidays but

- 1 continue all year long; and
- 2 WHEREAS, Hunger and homelessness are not discerning of
- 3 whether Pennsylvanians reside in urban or rural communities; and
- 4 WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated many of the
- 5 factors that lead to hunger and homelessness; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Hunger and homelessness are grave concerns for this
- 7 Commonwealth; and
- 8 WHEREAS, It is essential to eliminate these serious concerns
- 9 and increase public awareness of the extent to which they exist;
- 10 and
- 11 WHEREAS, The lack of affordable housing in this Commonwealth
- 12 for individuals with low income, the lack of funding and support
- 13 for homeless services and the lack of affordable, sustainable
- 14 food in all areas of this Commonwealth are all factors that
- 15 contribute to homelessness and hunger in this Commonwealth; and
- 16 WHEREAS, It is imperative that there be greater awareness of
- 17 this issue and more must be done to increase activity at the
- 18 Federal, State and local levels; therefore be it
- 19 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the week of November 11
- 20 through 18, 2023, as "Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week" in
- 21 Pennsylvania.