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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. ‖

Declaring support and gratitude by the House of Representatives to food banks, food pantries, and other community-based organizations working to end food insecurity and providing other essential services in the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CORREA submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on ▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮

RESOLUTION

Declaring support and gratitude by the House of Representatives to food banks, food pantries, and other community-based organizations working to end food insecurity and providing other essential services in the United States.

Whereas there are hundreds of food banks and over 60,000 of their partners, including food pantries and meal programs, that help address the persistent problem of food insecurity, which exists in all counties across the United States;

Whereas food banks collect, sort, and store millions of pounds of food donations, as well as distribute food to local food pantries, shelters, senior centers, and schools, and deliver

food to people experiencing food insecurity in our communities;

Whereas food banks are an integral part of anti-hunger programs in the United States through their involvement in Federal, State, and local programs, as well as privately funded programs;

Whereas many food banks manage and support programs that provide food to children after school, on the weekends, and during the summer to make sure children in the United States have sufficient food to thrive;

Whereas food bank employees and volunteers also step up to provide critical and immediate assistance during disasters;

Whereas, in 2023, more than 50,000,000 people in the United States turned to food banks, food pantries, and meal programs for help;

Whereas, in the United States in 2024, over 13 percent of all households, 16 percent of rural households, and over 18 percent of households with children experienced food insecurity;

Whereas, in 2024, 47,900,000 people, including nearly 7,300,000 children, in the United States experienced food insecurity;

Whereas, in America in 2024, 1 in 10 seniors over the age of 65 experienced food insecurity;

Whereas as many as 1 in 5 military and veteran families in America face food insecurity;

Whereas Federal food assistance programs are essential and provide the bulk of all food assistance, but they often do not cover the full cost of a monthly food budget for

households, including military and veteran households, leaving many recipients to rely on food banks to access the food they and their families need;

Whereas food banks depend on donated foods, private donors, volunteers, and United States agricultural producers and communities, in addition to local, State, and Federal support, to provide their services;

Whereas recent cuts to Federal food assistance programs, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), in H.R. 1 are leading to reduced access to nutrition programs;

Whereas over 4,000,000 Americans have already lost access to SNAP within 1 year of the passage of H.R. 1;

Whereas SNAP eligibility requirements caused by H.R. 1 will lead to more than 1,000,000 older adults aged 55 to 64 losing their food assistance;

Whereas cuts to funding for Federal food assistance programs and program eligibility changes under H.R. 1 are exacerbating demand for food at local food banks and making their services more critical than ever;

Whereas food bank employees and volunteers, and community partners work tirelessly and constantly innovate to provide and distribute as much food as possible;

Whereas food insecurity leads to chronic health problems and costs the United States economy at least $160,000,000,000 each year in additional health costs and poor health outcomes;

Whereas food banks collect, store, and distribute healthy foods, advocate for people who are experiencing food insecurity, aim to rescue food from going to waste and in-

crease food donations, and provide education about healthy eating: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) declares support and gratitude to food banks and all other community-based organizations working to end food insecurity in the United States for tirelessly providing food assistance; and

(2) confirms that food bank and community-based organization employees and volunteers, private donors, as well as United States agricultural producers, serve an essential role in working to end food insecurity, rescuing food from going to waste, and improving the Nation's general health, welfare, and economy.