

107TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. RES. 280

Designating June 5, 2002, as “National Hunger Awareness Day” and authorizing that the Senate office of Senator Richard J. Durbin be used to collect donations of food from June 5, 2002, until June 14, 2002, from concerned Members of Congress and staff to assist families suffering from hunger and food insecurity in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 4, 2002

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. DODD, and Mrs. MURRAY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Designating June 5, 2002, as “National Hunger Awareness Day” and authorizing that the Senate office of Senator Richard J. Durbin be used to collect donations of food from June 5, 2002, until June 14, 2002, from concerned Members of Congress and staff to assist families suffering from hunger and food insecurity in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

Whereas food insecurity and hunger are a fact of life for millions of low-income Americans and can produce physical, mental, and social impairments;

Whereas recent census data show that almost 13,000,000 children in the United States live in families experiencing hunger or food insecurity;

Whereas the problem of hunger and food insecurity can be found in rural, suburban, and urban America, touching nearly every American community;

Whereas although substantial progress has been made in reducing the incidence of hunger and food insecurity in the United States, certain groups, including the working poor, the elderly, homeless people, children, migrant workers, and Native Americans remain vulnerable to hunger and the negative effects of food deprivation;

Whereas the people of the United States have a long tradition of providing food assistance to hungry people through acts of private generosity and public support programs;

Whereas the United States Government, through Federal food assistance programs like the Federal Food Stamp Program, child nutrition programs, and food donation programs, provides essential nutrition support to millions of low-income people;

Whereas there is a growing awareness of the important public and private partnership role that community-based organizations, institutions of faith, and charities provide in assisting hungry and food insecure people;

Whereas more than 50,000 local community-based organizations rely on the support and efforts of more than 1,000,000 volunteers to provide food assistance and services to millions of vulnerable people;

Whereas a diverse group of organizations, including America's Second Harvest, the United States Conference of Mayors, and other organizations have documented sub-

stantial increases in requests for emergency food assistance over the past year; and

Whereas all Americans can help participate in hunger relief efforts in their communities by donating food and money, by volunteering, and by supporting public policies aimed at reducing hunger: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) designates June 5, 2002, as “National
3 Hunger Awareness Day”;

4 (2) requests that the President issue a procla-
5 mation calling upon the people of the United States
6 to observe “National Hunger Awareness Day”—

7 (A) with appropriate ceremonies, volunteer
8 activities, and other support for local
9 antihunger advocacy efforts and hunger relief
10 charities, including food banks, food rescue or-
11 ganizations, food pantries, soup kitchens, and
12 emergency shelters; and

13 (B) with the year-round support of pro-
14 grams and public policies that reduce hunger
15 and food insecurity in the United States; and

16 (3) office of Senator Richard J. Durbin is au-
17 thorized to collect donations of food from June 5,
18 2002, until June 14, 2002, from concerned Members
19 of Congress and staff to assist families suffering

- 1 from hunger and food insecurity in the Washington,
- 2 D.C. metropolitan area.

