

109<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# S. RES. 464

Designating June 7, 2006, as “National Hunger Awareness Day” and authorizing the Senate offices of Senators Gordon H. Smith, Blanche L. Lincoln, Elizabeth Dole, and Richard J. Durbin to collect donations of food during the period beginning May 8, 2006, and ending June 7, 2006, from concerned Members of Congress and staff to assist families suffering from hunger and food insecurity in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 3, 2006

Mr. SMITH (for himself, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. KOHL, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

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## RESOLUTION

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

Whereas recent data published by the Department of Agriculture show that almost 38,200,000 people in the United States live in households experiencing hunger or food insecurity;

Whereas the problem of hunger and food insecurity can be found in rural, suburban, and urban portions of the United States, touching nearly every community of the Nation;

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

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 Federal Government provides essential nutritional support to millions of low-income people through numerous Federal food assistance programs, including—

- (1) the federal food stamp program, as established by the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);
- (2) child nutrition programs; and
- (3) food donation programs;

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 have documented substantial increases in requests for emergency food assistance during the last year; and

Whereas all citizens of the United States can help participate in hunger relief efforts in their communities by—

- (1) donating food and money;
- (2) volunteering; and
- (3) supporting public policies aimed at reducing hunger: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2               (1) designates June 7, 2006, as “National  
3       Hunger Awareness Day”;

4               (2) calls on the people of the United States to  
5       observe National Hunger Awareness Day with—

6                       (A) appropriate ceremonies, volunteer ac-  
7       tivities, and other support for local anti-hunger  
8       advocacy efforts and hunger relief charities, in-  
9       cluding food banks, food rescue organizations,  
10      food pantries, soup kitchens, and emergency  
11      shelters; and

12                      (B) the continued support of programs and  
13      public policies that reduce hunger and food in-  
14      security in the United States; and

15               (3) authorizes the offices of Senators Gordon  
16      H. Smith, Blanche L. Lincoln, Elizabeth Dole, and

1 Richard J. Durbin to collect donations of food dur-  
2 ing the period beginning May 8, 2006, and ending  
3 June 7, 2006, from concerned Members of Congress  
4 and staff to assist families suffering from hunger  
5 and food insecurity in the Washington, D.C., metro-  
6 politan area.

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