

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 66

BY SENATOR WOMACK

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To designate Tuesday, May 19, 2026, as "Anti-Hunger Day" in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, hunger and food insecurity affect approximately 825,000 Louisiana residents, impacting individuals and families regardless of age, race, or background; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana had one of the country's highest rates of child poverty in 2024 with almost 25% of Louisiana's children experiencing food insecurity; and

WHEREAS, childhood hunger is of particular concern for the many children who face daily challenges in accessing nutritious meals needed for healthy development and education; and

WHEREAS, senior hunger is a serious concern as many elderly citizens face the choice of buying food, medicine, or paying for housing; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's rate of food insecurity among seniors is 14%, close to the highest in the nation; and

WHEREAS, food insecurity is shown to increase serious, lifelong health complications in children and adults; and

WHEREAS, Feeding Louisiana, the association of the state's five regional food banks including Food Bank of Northwest Louisiana, Food Bank of Northeast Louisiana, Food Bank of Central Louisiana, Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank, and Second Harvest Food Bank, has demonstrated outstanding leadership in the fight against hunger through advocacy, resource procurement, and partnership development; and

WHEREAS, Feeding Louisiana collaborates with agencies and individuals across the state to distribute food, support nutrition programs, and advocate for policies that reduce

hunger and improve food security; and

WHEREAS, Feeding Louisiana and the regional food banks serve as critical lifelines for Louisiana families facing increased food insecurity during federal funding lapses and disasters by providing nourishing food to residents in all sixty-four parishes; and

WHEREAS, Feeding Louisiana places dedicated Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Outreach Coordinators at each of the regional food banks who help residents understand how SNAP works, determine eligibility, and complete applications and recertifications; and

WHEREAS, the efforts of Feeding Louisiana and its partners are vital in addressing both the symptoms and the root causes of hunger and make a tangible difference in the lives of countless Louisianians; and

WHEREAS, the need for food and support in our communities continues to grow despite the significant contributions of Feeding Louisiana and its affiliated food banks and charitable entities, local organizations, charities, schools, and community groups; and

WHEREAS, Feeding Louisiana works together with these groups to bring statewide awareness, collaboration, and action to address the issue of food insecurity; and

WHEREAS, the declaration of "Anti-Hunger Day" in Louisiana serves as a powerful statement of the collective commitment to end hunger, raise awareness about the issue of food insecurity, and strengthen the bonds of community and compassion that define our state.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Tuesday, May 19, 2026, as "Anti-Hunger Day" in Louisiana and extends heartfelt gratitude to Feeding Louisiana for its leadership and tireless efforts in the fight against hunger.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Legislature does hereby recognize the critical importance of the work done to address hunger in Louisiana, especially regarding children and our senior citizens and hereby encourages all citizens, businesses, schools, and organizations in Louisiana to observe "Anti-Hunger Day" by participating in or supporting activities and initiatives aimed at reducing hunger and improving food security in the community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Executive Director of Feeding Louisiana.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES