

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

4 HOUSE

5 RESOLUTION 1054

By: Pae

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7
8 AS INTRODUCED

9 A Resolution recognizing March 29, 2022, as Anti-
10 Hunger Day in Oklahoma; praising the work of the
11 Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma and Regional
12 Food Bank of Oklahoma; and directing distribution.

13 WHEREAS, Oklahoma has the fourth highest food insecurity rate in
14 the nation according to the USDA, and consistently ranks as one of
15 the highest for child food insecurity, and among the top ten
16 nationwide for food insecurity among adults and seniors, meaning
17 these individuals lack consistent access to enough food for an
18 active healthy life; and

19 WHEREAS, nearly fifteen percent (15%) of Oklahoma households
20 experienced hunger in 2020, ranking the state behind Mississippi,
21 West Virginia, Louisiana; and

22 WHEREAS, for more than forty (40) years, the Community Food Bank
23 of Eastern Oklahoma and the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma (the
24 Oklahoma Food Banks) have led the charge to provide nutritious food

1 and pathways to self-sufficiency for Oklahomans facing hunger,
2 becoming the state's largest domestic hunger-relief nonprofit
3 organizations; and

4 WHEREAS, the majority of people served by the Oklahoma Food
5 Banks are chronically hungry children, seniors living on fixed
6 incomes, post-secondary learners working to build skills for the
7 workforce, and hardworking families struggling to make ends meet;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, through their networks of more than two thousand
10 (2,000) community-based partner agencies and schools across all
11 seventy-seven (77) counties in Oklahoma, the Oklahoma Food Banks
12 collectively distributed nearly one hundred million (100,000,000)
13 pounds of food to Oklahomans from July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021,
14 which were record amounts from previous years; and

15 WHEREAS, for every dollar (\$1.00) donated, Oklahoma Food Banks
16 help provide the equivalent of four (4) meals for food-insecure
17 Oklahomans; and

18 WHEREAS, ninety-six cents (\$0.96) of every dollar (\$1.00)
19 donated goes toward programming, food purchases, and serving
20 neighbors; and

21 WHEREAS, in the years leading up to 2020, there was evidence
22 that the Oklahoma Food Banks were making strides in the fight
23 against hunger in the state. However, the economic impact of the
24

1 COVID-19 pandemic eliminated progress made in food insecurity rates
2 across the country including in Oklahoma; and

3 WHEREAS, as the state continues to recover from the pandemic,
4 the Oklahoma Food Banks will be on the frontlines working to make
5 Oklahoma food secure.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
7 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 58TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

8 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives recognizes March 29,
9 2022, as Anti-Hunger Day in Oklahoma.

10 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives praises the work of
11 the Oklahoma Food Banks for their dedication in helping address
12 hunger.

13 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Community Food
14 Bank of Eastern Oklahoma Chief Executive Officer Calvin A. Moore and
15 Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma Chief Executive Officer Stacy
16 Dykstra.

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18 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.
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