

A RESOLUTION recognizing the Ohio County Food Pantry for its efforts to feed hungry Kentuckians.

WHEREAS, more than 700,000 Kentuckians, or one in six, do not always know where their next meal will come from and approximately one in four of Kentucky's children lack consistent access to enough food for a healthy, active lifestyle; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky ranks fourth highest in the nation for poverty, with 75% of households in the Commonwealth living in poverty and 53,400 Kentuckians receiving food from a food bank each week; and

WHEREAS, each month, the Ohio County Food Pantry distributes boxed, canned, or frozen foods to approximately 500 local families. The Ohio County Food Pantry, a volunteer organization with no paid staff, also operates the Backpack Program reaching out to seven Ohio County schools and delivering weekend meals to approximately 200 children each week; and

WHEREAS, the Kentucky Association of Food Banks is comprised of seven Feeding America food banks, serving all 120 counties in the Commonwealth. In 2010, these food banks distributed more than 50 million pounds of food and grocery products to more than 1,000 charitable feeding agencies, soup kitchens, food pantries, and shelters. Members of the Kentucky Association of Food Banks feed an estimated 611,100 people each year, including 122,000 seniors and 171,000 children living in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, food banks depend on the generosity and support of individuals, foundations, corporations, and manufacturers in order to provide charitable food relief to hundreds of thousands of Kentuckians each year. In 2014, Kentucky's General Assembly allocated \$1.2 million dollars to the Kentucky Food Banks Program, providing more than 3 million pounds of Kentucky-grown produce to food banks throughout the Commonwealth;

NOW, THEREFORE,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

➔Section 1. This honorable body hereby recognizes the Ohio County Food Pantry for its efforts in the fight against hunger and providing relief to thousands of hungry people throughout our Commonwealth.

➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Ohio County Food Pantry, 2368 State Route 1414, Hartford, Kentucky 42347.