

2025 -- H 5239

=====
LC000208
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

**PROCLAIMING JANUARY 30, 2025, TO BE "RHODE ISLAND FOOD INSECURITY
AWARENESS DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

Introduced By: Representatives Abney, Hull, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale,
Tanzi, Ajello, Kennedy, Fellela, and Noret

Date Introduced: January 30, 2025

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, In 2024, a record number of Rhode Islanders needed food assistance due to
2 high food prices, the steep rise in housing costs, and the end of COVID-19 relief programs; and

3 WHEREAS, According to the 2024 annual Status Report on Hunger in Rhode Island,
4 nearly two out of every five people, or 38% of Rhode Island households, are unable to meet their
5 basic food needs; and

6 WHEREAS, Communities of color are at the greatest risk of hunger, such that while 33%
7 of white households are food insecure, the food insecurity rate is 47% among Black households,
8 55% among Latino households, and 47% among all other households (including Asian, Native
9 American, and more than one race/ethnicity); and

10 WHEREAS, In fiscal year 2024, the Rhode Island Community Food Bank ("Food Bank")
11 distributed 18.3 million pounds of food through its 147 member agencies across Rhode Island;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, The Food Bank's statewide network of 147 member agencies served 84,400
14 individuals per month in 2024 (January through September), an increase of 9% from the previous
15 year when 77,600 people were served monthly; and

16 WHEREAS, In fiscal year 2025, the Food Bank will spend \$6 million on food acquisition
17 to keep pace with the high demand for food assistance; and

18 WHEREAS, The State of Rhode Island is committed to addressing the health and well-
19 being of its residents by continuing public awareness of increased food insecurity and seeking

1 ways to address this increased need; now, therefore be it

2 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
3 proclaims January 30, 2025, to be “Rhode Island Food Insecurity Awareness Day” in the State of
4 Rhode Island; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
6 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Andrew Schiff, Chief Executive Officer, Rhode
7 Island Community Food Bank.

=====
LC000208
=====