A RESOLUTION

Designating March 22, 2019, as "March for Meals Day" in Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, Hunger among senior citizens in America is a serious and pervasive problem, with one in six seniors threatened by hunger; and

WHEREAS, Research indicates that 10.2 million seniors across the country, and nearly 320,000 seniors in Pennsylvania, face the threat of hunger; and

WHEREAS, Currently, 15.7 million seniors across the country, and nearly 740,000 seniors in Pennsylvania, are isolated and living alone; and

WHEREAS, Currently, 18.7 million seniors across the country, and nearly 812,000 seniors in Pennsylvania, have difficulty paying for basic living needs; and

WHEREAS, The senior population in the United States, and in this Commonwealth, is projected to double by 2050; and

...
WHEREAS, The Meals on Wheels Association of America (MOWAA) annually sponsors the March for Meals campaign, which is designed to raise awareness of senior hunger and encourage action at the local level; and

WHEREAS, Senior nutrition programs across the United States promote March for Meals in their communities through public events, volunteer recruitment efforts, partnerships with local businesses and fundraising initiatives; and

WHEREAS, MOWAA is the oldest and largest national organization supporting the more than 5,000 community-based programs across the country that are dedicated to addressing senior isolation and hunger; and

WHEREAS, MOWAA coalesces the resources of the Federal and state governments, local community organizations and businesses, donors and 2 million volunteers into a national safety net for Americans who are 60 years of age or older; and

WHEREAS, For millions of Americans, including more than 100,000 Pennsylvanians, MOWAA enables seniors to remain more healthy and independent, saving billions of dollars in health care costs and allowing seniors to remain in their own homes rather than relocating to a nursing facility; and

WHEREAS, An important goal of the 2010 March for Meals campaign was to have Americans team up with their local Meals on Wheels program and take a pledge to end senior hunger in the United States by 2020; and

WHEREAS, To achieve this mission, MOWAA has set a goal to recruit 6 million people willing to pledge to do whatever is necessary to end senior hunger; and

WHEREAS, The annual March for Meals campaign hopes to continue its significant contribution toward realizing this
ambitious and most worthy goal, and residents of this
Commonwealth are encouraged to participate in this effort to
fight senior citizen hunger; therefore be it
RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate March
22, 2019, as "March for Meals Day" in Pennsylvania.