



SPONSOR: Sen. Bonini on behalf of all Senators & Rep. Osienski on behalf of all Representatives

DELAWARE STATE SENATE
151st GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 120

COMMENDING THE FOOD BANK OF DELAWARE FOR ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE STATE OF DELAWARE.

1 WHEREAS, on March 26, 1981 a committee incorporated the Food Conservers, Inc. and it operated out of a
2 modest basement of the Northeast State Social Service Center in Wilmington, serving 50 member agencies; and

3 WHEREAS, in 1991 the name of the organization was changed to the Food Bank of Delaware; and

4 WHEREAS, the Food Bank of Delaware is the largest hunger relief organization in the State of Delaware; and

5 WHEREAS, the Food Bank of Delaware has been on the front line of ensuring that thousands of Delawareans
6 have access to the food resources they so vitally need; and

7 WHEREAS, according to Feeding America, currently there are 114,190 Delawareans experiencing food
8 insecurity; and

9 WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2021, the Food Bank of Delaware distributed approximately 15,536 million pounds of
10 food throughout Delaware, served 66,591 households thorough its Mobile Pantry program, distributed 140,159 meal kits to
11 at-risk youth through its Backpack program, and provided 23,183 supplemental food boxes through the Commodity
12 Supplemental Food program and Palmer Home Foundation; and

13 WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2021, 14,912 individuals volunteered their time for a total of 46,804 donated hours,
14 which is the equivalent of 23 full-time staff members; and

15 WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has increased the need for food assistance to unprecedented levels; and

16 WHEREAS, March 16, 2020 through March 31, 2022, the Food Bank of Delaware responded to the COVID-19
17 pandemic by facilitating 67 mass drives through distribution events throughout the State of Delaware serving 71,532
18 households, serving 61,869 households through the Healthy Pantry Centers at their Newark and Milford locations, and
19 distributing more than 33 million pounds of food to the community; and

20 WHEREAS, in May of 2021, the Food Bank of Delaware welcomed a new President and CEO, Cathy Kanefsky to
21 the organization; and

22 WHEREAS, the Food Bank of Delaware currently employs 76-full time and part-time employees as its Newark
23 and Milford facilities; and

24 WHEREAS, the Food Bank of Delaware has played a significant role in improving access to and the efficiency of
25 the USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly the Food Stamp Program) in Delaware; and

26 WHEREAS, the Food Bank of Delaware has two workforce development programs – The Culinary School at the
27 Food Bank of Delaware and L.O.G.I.C. (Logistics, Operations, General Warehousing and Inventory Control) that
28 successfully graduated 73 job ready students in fiscal year 2021; and

29 WHEREAS, the Food Bank of Delaware will continue to provide nutritious foods to Delawareans in need and
30 facilitate long-term solutions to the problems of hunger and poverty through community education and advocacy; and

31 WHEREAS, the Food Bank of Delaware's 5-acre farm in Newark consists of a propagation house, three high
32 tunnels, a demonstration garden, beehives, and field growing space producing vegetables throughout the year; and

33 WHEREAS, the Food Bank of Delaware sells the vegetables they produce at an on-site farm stand and distributes
34 the vegetables through the farm's Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) membership program and through the on-site
35 Healthy Pantry Center; and

36 WHEREAS, the Food Bank of Delaware is looking forward to building a new approximately 70,000-square-foot
37 facility in Milford later this year that will ensure appropriate food resources are available downstate, while increasing
38 capacity throughout the State.

39 NOW, THEREFORE:

40 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the 151st General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the House of
41 Representatives concurring therein, that the Food Bank of Delaware is hereby honored for its continued dedication to the
42 health and nourishment of the citizens of Delaware, as well as its endeavors to further expand resources available
43 throughout the State.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Senate Concurrent Resolution be presented to
45 representatives of the Food Bank of Delaware upon its enactment by the General Assembly.

SYNOPSIS

This resolution commends the Food Bank of Delaware for its contributions toward ending hunger and resolving the root causes of poverty in the State of Delaware through its increased statewide impact.

Author: Senator Bonini