

By: Fierro

H.R. No. 480

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, El Pasoans Fighting Hunger (EPFH), El Paso's only
2 food bank, has implemented a number of strategies in order to
3 continue addressing food insecurity in the midst of the COVID-19
4 pandemic; and

5 WHEREAS, EPFH is a member of Feeding America, the nation's
6 largest hunger relief network; the food bank is the distribution
7 center for more than 130 partner agencies and 235 mobile pantries
8 across the borderland region, as well as a collaborative hub for
9 SNAP and other support services; it currently provides meals to an
10 estimated 200,000 people who are facing hunger, including families,
11 children, single parents, seniors, and military veterans; and

12 WHEREAS, During the COVID-19 crisis, EPFH has been required
13 to adapt its methods of distributing food in order to keep its
14 volunteers, staff, and clients safe; the organization created a
15 task force that meets regularly to discuss health and safety
16 measures, while it works to keep pace with the demand for nutritious
17 food in its three-county service area; and

18 WHEREAS, To reduce person-to-person contact at its
19 distribution sites, EPFH began creating approximately 8,000 family
20 meal boxes each week, and it has also provided partner agencies with
21 the means of creating meal boxes of their own; EPFH has collaborated
22 with El Paso County and the City of El Paso to prepare and deliver
23 food boxes to residents of local senior centers, and it has also
24 supplied emergency food boxes to individuals in quarantine due to a

1 COVID-19 diagnosis; to further improve safety, EPFH has
2 transitioned to a drive-through model at its locations, and in
3 partnership with the City of El Paso, it has opened new sites to
4 expand access to clients in the northeastern and western areas of
5 the city; and

6 WHEREAS, El Pasoans Fighting Hunger has served as a critical
7 lifeline to countless area Texans who have found themselves in need
8 of assistance in these unprecedented times, and the tireless
9 dedication demonstrated by its compassionate volunteers and staff
10 is truly an inspiration; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas
12 Legislature hereby commend El Pasoans Fighting Hunger for its
13 continuing service to the community during the COVID-19 pandemic
14 and extend to all those associated with the organization sincere
15 best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

16 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
17 prepared for El Pasoans Fighting Hunger as an expression of high
18 regard by the Texas House of Representatives.