

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 925

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Eric S. Cooper, president and chief executive officer of the San Antonio Food Bank, who has received the 2011 Executive Director of the Year award from Feeding America, the national organization of food banks; and

WHEREAS, Eric Cooper joined the San Antonio Food Bank in 2001 with a track record of outstanding accomplishments at food banks in North Texas and Utah, and he wasted no time in continuing his successful efforts; and

WHEREAS, He oversaw a \$10 million capital campaign that allowed the food bank to move into a new facility and he built a strong team of employees, volunteers, and donors to ensure that deserving people get the help they need; during his tenure, distribution of food and grocery items increased from 14 million pounds to more than 43 million pounds; and

WHEREAS, Many new programs have been established in San Antonio to help those in need, including the Social Services Outreach Program, a Community Kitchen, a Farmers' Market, a Client-Choice Pantry, a Nutrition Education program, and a Community Garden that is used as a forum for education and community awareness in addition to the food it provides; and

WHEREAS, Under his leadership, the San Antonio Food Bank became the first and now the largest food stamp outreach program in Texas; his work was instrumental in the award of a \$1 million grant from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission for the Texas Food Bank Network for food stamp outreach for all 19 Texas food banks; and

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WHEREAS, Eric Cooper's phenomenal impact on the food bank and the community it serves also led to the San Antonio Food Bank receiving the Food Bank of the Year Award from Feeding America; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 82nd Legislature, hereby commend Eric S. Cooper for his hard work and dedicated leadership and congratulate him on receiving the Executive Director of the Year award from Feeding America; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for him as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Van de Putte

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 10, 2011.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate