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By:  Campos H.R. No. 198

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The San Antonio Food Bank is playing an increasingly vital role during a time of unprecedented need; and

WHEREAS, Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, SAFB has increased food distribution by 30 percent in order to help the rising number of people in financial distress; although health measures have closed many of the organization's traditional sources of food donations, including convention center restaurants, hotels, and caterers, it has built new partnerships and drawn support from the community in order for its kitchens to double the number of people they feed weekly, from 60,000 to 120,000; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1980, SAFB has grown to serve people across Southwest Texas, with client service agencies in 16 counties that distribute both perishable and nonperishable food items; in 2017, it opened the New Braunfels Food Bank, which serves Comal and Guadalupe Counties, and its Mobile Mercado brings locally grown produce and other healthy foods to residents of food deserts; SAFB cultivates 25 acres at its urban farm and an additional 50 acres at the National Park Service's Mission San Juan Capistrano, a World Heritage site, where it replicates traditional farming methods and maintains a historic demonstration garden for visitors; and

WHEREAS, SAFB spends a mere two percent on overhead, allowing it to devote 98 percent of its resources to its mission; while addressing immediate needs, it also promotes long-term food security and good nutrition through job placement and food and wellness education; the organization's holistic approach to nourishment encompasses programs for children and an initiative that enables struggling families and individuals to continue caring for their pets; and

WHEREAS, For more than four decades, the San Antonio Food Bank has battled hunger in the area, and by redoubling its efforts during the crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, it has made a positive difference in the lives of thousands of Texans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby honor the San Antonio Food Bank for its service and extend to all those associated with the organization sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for the organization as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.