

No. R-15. House concurrent resolution designating February 6, 2025 as 3SquaresVT Awareness Day at the State House.

(H.C.R.10)

Offered by Representative McGill of Bridport

Whereas, food shelves, food pantries, meal sites, senior meal programs, the Vermont Foodbank, emergency shelters, Area Agencies on Aging, community groups, businesses, health providers, statewide coalitions, faith-based organizations, and concerned and dedicated individuals are working to end hunger in Vermont, and

Whereas, a major support for this effort is 3SquaresVT, the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in Vermont that the Department for Children and Families' Economic Services Division administers, and

Whereas, 3SquaresVT is an extremely effective and efficient antihunger program providing nine meals for every one meal that the charitable food system offers, and

Whereas, more than 65,000 Vermonters, comprising nearly 40,000 households of all ages and demographics, are recipients of 3SquaresVT benefits, and

Whereas, a large segment of 3SquaresVT recipients are children, seniors, or people living with disabilities, and

Whereas, 3SquaresVT serves the food needs of friends, neighbors, and families with privacy and dignity and mitigates the impact of poverty on our most vulnerable residents, and

Whereas, this federal program strengthens the economic vitality of Vermont's local communities and businesses, such as grocers and farmers, and our State economy, by keeping redeemed benefits from each meal within our State, and

Whereas, the most recent data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture shows that the number of people at risk of hunger is only increasing, particularly households with children, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates February 6, 2025 as 3SquaresVT Awareness Day at the State House.