

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles, with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, on May 8, 2020 the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) authorized \$1.2 billion in contracts to establish the Farmers to Families Food Box Program; and

WHEREAS, the program, which is designed to provide food boxes containing six days of food to families in need during the COVID-19 pandemic, and support farmers and ranchers, has provided approximately 120 million food boxes to families since May 15, 2020; and

WHEREAS, roughly 87 million of food boxes from the Farmers to Families Food Box Program were delivered in the first two rounds of the program from May to August; only 33 million food boxes have been distributed in the third and fourth rounds of the program since September; and

WHEREAS, North Valley Caring Services, a small food distributor for the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, acted as a distributor for the first three rounds of the program, went from feeding 3,300 families a week on three distribution days to feeding 900 families on Fridays because the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank was not selected as a distributor for the fourth phase of the program; and

WHEREAS, food insecurity is at its highest, and will continue to worsen during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that the federal government increase funding to the USDA Farmers to Families Food Box Program to address the ever-increasing levels of food insecurity threatening our most vulnerable communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2021-2022 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for any legislation and/or administrative action that would maintain the United States Department of Agriculture's Farmers to Families Food Box Program, and increase its funding and distribution to all-time high levels to address food insecurity during the pandemic.

PRESENTED BY:



MONICA RODRIGUEZ  
Councilwoman, 7th District

SECONDED BY

BOB BLUMENFIELD (verbal)  
Councilmember, 3rd District

NOV 24 2020