

Background and Policy Issues_(continued): TEFAP is a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) program that provides food to low-income individuals and families, helping to improve diets of these Americans regardless of age by providing them with emergency food and nutrition assistance at no cost. Under TEFAP, commodity foods are made available by the USDA to the states. FDACS has not issued a competitive solicitation for these commodities since 2010. Recipient agencies who are awarded a contract by the FDACS receive and are responsible for the distribution of all the TEFAP commodities in the county or counties included within their region. The current contract for TEFAP in Palm Beach County is held by Feeding South Florida, Inc, an organization based in Broward County, with a warehouse located in Boynton Beach, FL.

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, URGING THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES (FDACS) TO REQUIRE A COMPETITIVE PROCESS FOR THE 2021 EXPIRING CONTRACT FOR THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S (USDA) EMERGENCY FEEDING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TEFAP) FOR REGION 8, AND TO SPLIT REGION 8, CURRENTLY COMBINING PALM BEACH AND BROWARD COUNTIES INTO TWO (2) SEPARATE REGIONS, THEREBY ESTABLISHING PALM BEACH COUNTY AS ITS OWN INDEPENDENT REGION FOR ADMINISTRATION OF THE EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, hunger and food insecurity continue to be significant issues that affect residents of Palm Beach County; and

WHEREAS, TEFAP is a USDA program that provides food to low-income Americans, and FDACS executes the TEFAP program in Florida through contracts with one Contracted Distributing Agency (CDA) in each of nine (9) existing regions throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida's contracts to administer TEFAP have not been competitively bid for the past ten years, since 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Palm Beach County Food Bank, which serves a broad network of 200 Palm Beach County based food pantries, soup kitchens and other distribution partners, was established in 2012, subsequent to the last competitive process for TEFAP; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of the Palm Beach County Food Bank has served to represent, along with Feeding South Florida, two viable Food Banks independently operating in Palm Beach County; and

WHEREAS, Palm Beach and Broward Counties are currently combined into one region, Region 8, which effectively limits the Palm Beach County Food Bank from successfully competing to administer the TEFAP in Palm Beach County; and

WHEREAS, Palm Beach County is the third-largest county by population in Florida and the second-largest geographically.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

1. Palm Beach County urges FDACS to issue a competitive process for the TEFAP program for the fiscal year beginning October 2021.
2. Palm Beach County urges FDACS to separate Palm Beach County and Broward County and establish each County as its own independent region under Florida's TEFAP program, which will allow both of Palm Beach County's established Food Banks to compete to become the exclusive administrator for the TEFAP program in Palm Beach County.
3. A copy of this resolution is to be forwarded to Nicole "Nikki" Fried, Commissioner, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and Deborah Tannenbaum, Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner _____, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Dave Kerner, Mayor	-	_____
Robert S. Weinroth, Vice Mayor	-	_____
Commissioner Hal R. Valeche	-	_____
Commissioner Gregg K. Weiss	-	_____
Commissioner Mary Lou Berger	-	_____
Commissioner Melissa McKinlay	-	_____
Commissioner Mack Bernard	-	_____

The Mayor thereupon declared the Resolution duly passed and adopted this _____ day of _____, 2020.

ATTEST:
CLERK & COMPTROLLER
Sharon R. Bock, Clerk and Comptroller

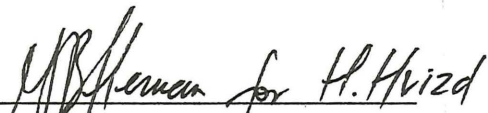
Palm Beach County, Florida by its
Board of County Commissioners

By: _____
Clerk & Comptroller

By: _____
Dave Kerner, Mayor

Approved as to Form and Legal Sufficiency:

Approved as to Content:

By: 
Assistant County Attorney

By: 
Nancy L. Bolton, Assistant County Administrator