WHEREAS, Hunger and food insecurity are serious problem in our community; and

WHEREAS, food insecurity is defined as a situation where consistent across to adequate food is limited by a lack of money and other resources; and

WHEREAS, as a college education becomes increasingly expensive, more students are being forced to live near or below the poverty level; and

WHEREAS, college students often have limited transportation options and community-based food resources are typically not located close to campuses; and,

WHEREAS, college students, while food insecure, might not meet community-based agency requirements and/or may be uncomfortable in accessing services off campus; and,

WHEREAS, food insecurity cuts across all demographic statuses, enrollment levels, and geographic locations; and,

WHEREAS, as a campus community, we have a responsibility to help students who are in need of assistance; and,

WHEREAS, this problem has recently promoted many other campus’ to establish food pantries to help students in need such as: University of Illinois Chicago, Illinois State University, Northern Illinois University, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Northeastern Illinois University, have food pantries on their campus’; and,

WHEREAS, campus-based food banks/pantries provide easily accessible and navigable food security resources for students; and,

WHEREAS, during times of economic instability, students may become financially stressed and lack access to basic resources.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the University of Illinois Springfield Student Government Association commits to providing support to the campus food pantry, in support of organizations holding a food drive each fall; and,
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Office will work on finding a space to temporarily and then permanently house said student directed food pantry; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that when established, the food collected from Student Organizations food drives will go towards this student directed food pantry.

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Secretary Hartney                                                                                                 President Mehmet