

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-28

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

March 5, 2019

To honor and recognize José Andrés and the World Central Kitchen for their generosity in providing meals to thousands of furloughed federal workers during the longest federal government shutdown in history.

WHEREAS, on December 21, 2018, President Donald Trump reversed himself and chose not to accept a bipartisan compromise to fund one-quarter of the federal government, choosing instead to suspend the operation of various federal agencies, including the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of the Treasury, and the Department of Agriculture;

WHEREAS, the suspension of operations in those agencies placed approximately 800,000 federal government employees on furlough without pay, right in the midst of the annual holiday season, and about one-quarter of those employees reside and work in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan region;

WHEREAS, José Andrés immediately began offering free sandwiches to furloughed federal workers through his various restaurants in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan region;

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2019, José Andrés expanded his efforts to feed furloughed federal employees and their families by opening a World Central Kitchen emergency pop-up kitchen on Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., which provided daily, ready-to-eat meals to furloughed federal employees and their families;

WHEREAS, during the federal shutdown, José Andrés and World Central Kitchen provided more than 100,000 meals to furloughed federal employees in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan region;

WHEREAS, José Andrés also provided more than 12,000 meal kits with fresh produce for families to prepare at home; and

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WHEREAS, José Andrés and the World Central Kitchen launched Chefs For Feds Nation and put out a call for restaurants around the country to provide free hot meals in their communities, resulting in an alliance of over 400 restaurants in 35 states that distributed hundreds of thousands of free meals to federal employees impacted by the shutdown nationwide.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “José Andrés and the World Central Kitchen Recognition Resolution of 2019”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes, honors, and thanks the leadership and generosity of José Andrés and the World Central Kitchen for providing meals to thousands of furloughed federal employees during the longest shutdown in federal government history. Mr. Andrés has demonstrated a level of leadership and civic commitment that sets an example for all of us.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.