Ensuring Food Security for All: Maryland's Call to Action!

**Providing a Supplemental Benefit to Marylanders** 

**HB 666** 

**SB 35** 

Did you know that **hundreds of thousands** of Marylanders struggle with hunger every day? During the pandemic, the SNAP Emergency Allotments (EAs) alleviated some of the challenges faced by participants. Current monthly SNAP benefit is woefully insufficient with the expiration of EAs in 2023, with many households expected to get by on \$23 per month.

Maryland legislators **must** raise the minimum monthly benefit to \$95 in 2024.

# How will raising the minimum SNAP benefit in Maryland help?

### Improved Food Security



Many individuals and families have experienced job losses and reduced income, making it difficult to afford regular meals. SNAP benefits have been vital in ensuring access to nutritious food for those facing financial strains.

#### **Health & Wellbeing**



Adequate nutrition is crucial for maintaining good health, particularly during challenging times. The SNAP supplemental benefit would assist recipients in purchasing nutritious food, enabling them to maintain a balanced diet and meet their dietary needs.

#### **Economic Benefits for Farmers and Retailers**



SNAP benefits inject funds into the local economy. With this legislation, Maryland will uplift local grocery stores, farmers' markets, and food retailers who rely on SNAP dollars. This support will bolster communities and aid in post-pandemic economic recovery efforts.



\$6

PER PERSON, PER DAY

### In Maryland



more than
650,000
participate
in SNAP each
month



1 in 8 children face hunger

## We must act now!

## Support HB0666 and SB0035

It's time for Maryland to join other states and become a leader in SNAP benefit adequacy.

