

**Committee:** Senate Finance Committee

Bill Number: SB 796 – Maryland Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities and

Maryland Health Care Commission – Reporting Requirements

Hearing Date: March 3, 2020

**Position:** Support

Moveable Feast supports Senate Bill 796 – Maryland Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities and Maryland Health Care Commission – Reporting Requirements. The bill requires the Maryland Department of Health and the Maryland Health Care Commission to collaborate on a report on strategies to address health disparities. The bill also enhances the State's ongoing planning efforts to address health equity by improving data collection about the healthcare workforce. The health occupation boards will be required to collect data on a voluntary basis about race and ethnicity from licensee and certificate holders.

Moveable Feast's mission is to provide medically tailored meals and Medical Nutrition Therapy to individuals with critical or chronic illnesses. We provide nutrition counseling and assessment with a staff of Registered Dietitians to ensure that our clients have the tools to maintain health gains. We coordinate with our services with our clients' health care practitioners in primary and specialty care. We support this legislation because it will enhance healthcare workforce planning to ensure the racial composition of the health care workforce reflects the communities that they serve.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony, and we urge a favorable vote. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at <a href="mailto:relliott@policypartners.net">relliott@policypartners.net</a> or (443) 926-3443.

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Feast is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization, contributions to which are tax-deductible. A copy of our current financial statement is available upon request by contacting our accounting office. Documents and information submitted to the State of Maryland under the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act are available from the Office of the Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis, MD 21401 for the cost of copying and postage.