



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 139

Landlord and Tenant – Office of Home Energy Programs – Financial Assistance

Environment and Transportation

January 30, 2024, 1pm

Submitted by Kali Schumitz and Mark Huffman, Co-Chairs

Member Agencies:

211 Maryland

Anne Arundel County Food Bank

Baltimore Jewish Council

Behavioral Health System Baltimore

CASH Campaign of Maryland

Energy Advocates

Episcopal Diocese of Maryland

Family League of Baltimore

Fuel Fund of Maryland

Job Opportunities Task Force

Laurel Advocacy & Referral Services,
Inc.

League of Women Voters of Maryland

Loyola University Maryland

Maryland Center on Economic Policy

Maryland Community Action
Partnership

Maryland Family Network

Maryland Food Bank

Maryland Hunger Solutions

Paul's Place

St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore

Welfare Advocates

Marylanders Against Poverty

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Marylanders Against Poverty (MAP) strongly supports HB 139, which requires landlords to accept Office of Home Energy Programs (OHEP) grants to pay down their tenants' utility bills.

MAP supports any effort to reduce low-income utility bills. This bill will close a gap for those tenants who do fund OHEP programs yet can't get grants given the utility bill is paid for by their landlord.

MAP appreciates your consideration and urges the committee to issue a favorable report for HB139.

***Marylanders Against Poverty (MAP)** is a coalition of service providers, faith communities, and advocacy organizations advancing statewide public policies and programs necessary to alleviate the burdens faced by Marylanders living in or near poverty, and to address the underlying systemic causes of poverty.*