



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 992

The Tenant Possessions Recovery Act Real Property – Landlord and Tenant – Procedures for Failure to Pay Rent, Breach of Lease, and Tenant Holding Over

Judicial Proceedings

March 7, 2024 1pm

Submitted by Mark Huffman, Co-Chair

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 826, which would align Maryland with 46 states and allow renting families a limited opportunity to collect their belongings after eviction.

Right now, when a tenant is evicted they not only lose their home, but also their birth certificates, medications, and family photos as well as their dignity through a very public and traumatic eviction process.

Families need notice of an eviction date and a 10-day period to reclaim their possessions. This bill would require that tenants be given 14 days of notice of their scheduled evictions. Notice will include the eviction date, if there is a right to redeem, and that the tenant will have 10 days to reclaim their personal possessions.

After the eviction is executed, a tenant will have 10 days to reclaim whatever personal possessions are left before the landlord can dispose of them.

46 states in the US have legislation requiring notice of the eviction date and/or a reclamation of possessions post eviction. All the neighboring jurisdictions of Washington, DC; New Jersey; West Virginia; Pennsylvania; Delaware; Virginia; and North Carolina have notice AND reclamation periods.

MAP appreciates your consideration and urges the committee to issue a favorable report for SB 992.

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.