**CORY V. McCRAY** Legislative District 45 Baltimore City

Deputy Majority Whip

Budget and Taxation Committee

*Subcommittees* Chair, Health and Human Services

Vice Chair, Capital Budget

Executive Nominations Committee

Legislative Policy Committee Joint Committee on Gaming Oversight



James Senate Office Building 11 Bladen Street, Room 221 Annapolis, Maryland 21401 410-841-3165 · 301-858-3165 800-492-7122 *Ext.* 3165 Cory.McCray@senate.state.md.us

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND Annapolis, Maryland 21401

## **Vote Yes on Senate Bill 445**

Bill Title: Department of Human Services – Federal Commodity Supplemental Food Program – Administration

Committee: Appropriations

Hearing Date: March 25 2025

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Esteemed Members of the Committee,

I stand before you in strong support of Senate Bill 445, a bill that will improve how Maryland runs the Federal Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP). This bill will place the Family Investment Administration (FIA) in charge of coordinating and managing the program, making the process more efficient and streamlined for those who rely on it.

Currently, the Secretary of Aging oversees CSFP, but this bill would shift that responsibility to the FIA, which already manages several vital assistance programs. By doing this, we make sure that the program runs smoothly and that every resource and dollar is used to benefit those who need it most. This change means better coordination, faster access, and a more effective system to help Maryland families who face food insecurity.

Senate Bill 445 makes sure that the resources we receive from the federal government under 7 C.F.R. 247 are handled by the central agency that already manages many public assistance programs. This will create a more unified approach to helping those in need.

I ask for your support of this bill, as it will make our state's food assistance system more efficient and effective. With this change, we continue to strengthen our commitment to Maryland's most vulnerable families.

Continued Blessings,

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Cory V. McCray 45<sup>th</sup> District