



## Member Agencies:

211 Maryland  
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  
Jewish Community Relations Council  
of Greater Washington  
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

Abby Snyder, Co-Chair  
P: (240) 593-6121  
E: [ASnyder@baltjc.org](mailto:ASnyder@baltjc.org)

Anne Wallerstedt, Co-Chair  
P: (410) 991-7285  
E: [AWallerstedt@mdfoodbank.org](mailto:AWallerstedt@mdfoodbank.org)

## House Bill 102

### Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program – Revisions

Senate Finance Committee

April 1, 2025

### FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENT

Marylanders Against Poverty (MAP) supports House Bill 102 with amendments. HB 102 alters the implementation date of the Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FAMLI) Program, and **we'd request that the bill be amended to remove the eighteen-month delay in program implementation.**

MAP very much appreciates the budgetary difficulties the state has been facing this year. Similarly, however, Marylanders are also facing the same economic headwinds. Imposing a statutory delay in the FAMLI program will be catastrophic for Marylanders and their families who need the financial and logistical support during times of specific need. Recovering from birth, bonding with a new child, and taking care of yourself or your family are situations for which the timing is not necessarily intentionally planned. And these situations can be costly. The state of many household budgets is tighter than ever, and unavoidable – thought frankly, in the case of new children, wanted – costs to manage your family's needs must be factored in every day. Maryland families are already burdened with high costs on necessities like groceries, child care, and transportation costs, and we anticipate those may only rise in the near future as significant changes to federal policies flows down to Maryland. Having the assurance of the safety net of paid leave needs to be in place as soon as possible.

Further, any delay in implementation keeps the window open for opportunistic amendments to weaken or distill the program in the future. The length of time required for full program implementation was intentionally negotiated based on eventual program sustainability. **MAP very strongly requests that no delay in FAMLI program implementation occurs during the 2025 session.**

MAP appreciates your consideration and respectfully requests a favorable report with amendments on HB 102.

**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.