

JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR. County Executive

CHARLES R. CONNER III, ESQ. Director of Government Affairs

JOEL N. BELLER Deputy Director of Government Affairs

BILL NO.: **HB 891**

TITLE: Higher Education - Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program -

Established

SPONSOR: Delegate Davis

COMMITTEE: Appropriations

POSITION: SUPPORT

DATE: March 11, 2021

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 891 – Higher Education - Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program - Established. This legislation establishes the Hunger-Free Campus Grant program which will designate and fund hunger-free campuses to address food insecurity and public higher education institutions.

Many students attending higher education institutions struggle to fund their schooling while addressing their basic needs. Food insecurity is detrimental not only to a students' performance, but to their quality of life. This is an issue that predominantly impacts those students that come from communities of low socioeconomic status and creates further challenges for these vulnerable students' success. Students are not always aware of the services already offered on campus to address food insecurity and affordability, and current programs often do not receive adequate funding.

HB 891 would address student hunger by educating students on the resources available, leveraging sustainable solutions to address food insecurity on campus, and establishing strategic partnerships for investing in and addressing the food needs at public higher education institutions. Baltimore County strives to ensure every single resident has secure and easy access to food. No one deserves to go hungry in the pursuit of bettering their education.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 891. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Director of Government Affairs, at cconner@baltimorecountymd.gov.