



TO: The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky, Chair
Members, Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
The Honorable Mary Washington

FROM: Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise
Danna L. Kauffman

DATE: March 9, 2021

RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 767 – *Higher Education – Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program – Established*

The Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (MDAAP) is a statewide association representing more than 1,100 pediatricians and allied pediatric and adolescent healthcare practitioners in the State and is a strong and established advocate promoting the health and safety of all the children we serve. On behalf of MDAAP, we submit this letter of **support** for Senate Bill 767.

Senate Bill 767 establishes a Hunger Free Campus Grant program that is designed to address food insecurity and hunger on Maryland's college campuses. The program is structured to facilitate the leveraging of more sustainable solutions to basic food needs on college campuses; raise awareness amongst students of services currently offered on campus or in the surrounding community that address basic food needs; and build strategic partnerships at the local, state, and national levels to address food insecurity among students. The program will be administered by the Higher Education Commission.

College students face many challenges in navigating a successful path through their college experience. Hunger and food insecurity only exacerbates the challenges for the most vulnerable students. Passage of Senate Bill 767 will provide one additional tool for the State to assist these students in addressing hunger issues, thereby enabling them to focus on their pathway to graduation and a successful transition to the workplace. A favorable report is requested.

For more information call:

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