



ARCHDIOCESE OF BALTIMORE † ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON † DIOCESE OF WILMINGTON

March 16, 2021

HB 189

Mobile Laundry for the Homeless Pilot Program

Senate Education, Health, and Environment Committee

Position: Support

The Maryland Catholic Conference (“Conference”) represents the public-policy interests of the three Roman Catholic (arch) dioceses serving Maryland: the Archdiocese of Baltimore, the Archdiocese of Washington, and the Diocese of Wilmington.

House Bill 189 establishes the Mobile Laundry for the Homeless Pilot Program in the Division of Neighborhood Revitalization to provide funds to nonprofit organizations to establish or expand mobile laundry services for the homeless; requiring the Division to award funds through certain grants to establish certain mobile laundry services; requiring the Department of Housing and Community Development to evaluate the effectiveness of the Pilot Program and make recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 15, 2024.

Pope Francis tells us, “We have forgotten and are still forgetting that over and above business, logic and the parameters of the market is the human being; and that something is men and women in as much as they are human beings by virtue of their profound dignity: to offer them the possibility of living a dignified life and of actively participating in the common good”. House Bill 189 is a step in the right direction for living a dignified life and the pursuit of a common good within today’s society.

The Conference appreciates your consideration and urges you for a favorable report on House Bill 189.