

# **SB 1009\_Maryland Food Bank\_Fav.pdf**

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Position: FAV

**March 16, 2022**

**SB 1009**

**Prior Authorizations of State Debt – Alterations**

**Senate Budget and Taxation Committee**

**Position: Support**

Senate Bill 1009 alters the use of capital grant expenditures from prior years. For the Maryland Food Bank, this means extending the timeline by which to use its 2015 capital grant.

The Maryland Food Bank was granted \$3.5 million in 2015 through a legislative bond initiative for the expansion of its facilities, most notably construction costs for an expansion of its FoodWorks kitchen. FoodWorks is the Maryland Food Bank's flagship workforce development program. Since its establishment in 2010, it has graduated four classes of students every year, sending well-prepared and fully certified Marylanders into the culinary and hospitality field with "knife skills and life skills." Upon completion of construction, FoodWorks will be able to double the amount of students it graduates each year in our Halethorpe location. In addition, FoodWorks has expanded into Baltimore City at the UA House and on the Eastern Shore at Wor-Wic Community College.

The Maryland Food Bank is incredibly grateful to the Maryland General Assembly for assistance on its construction project. The project was anticipated to be completed by February of 2022 – within the seven year time frame for legislative bond initiatives – but due to unanticipated circumstances out of our control the project has a likely completion date of December 2022. We are very appreciative of the two-year extension offered to us under SB 1009.

The Maryland Food Bank appreciates your consideration and respectfully requests a favorable report on SB 1009.