

My name is Marilyn Brooks, a resident of Hyattsville in Prince George's County. I'm a proud member of the Capital Area Food Bank's Client Leadership Council program.

I am here to express my support for House Bill 0323. It makes perfect sense to have a bill passed to allow individuals to be eligible to obtain energy assistance based on their eligibility for SNAP. As someone who receives both SNAP and energy assistance, this bill would greatly help individuals like myself. If someone is eligible for SNAP, they should automatically be eligible for energy assistance as well. This would make it easier for people to receive these critical social services, which allow people to stretch their limited funds further to pay bills and feed their families. Living in poverty is already difficult enough. This bill would simplify the eligibility process and allow more people in need to benefit from these services. I strongly urge you to vote in favor of this bill.

Thank you so much for the opportunity to testify.