



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE
OF MARYLAND

The Maryland Episcopal
Public Policy
Network

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 666
FAVORABLE
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
State Supplement**

TO: Delegate Ben Barnes, Chair, Delegate Mark S. Chang, Co-Chair, and members of the Appropriations Committee;

FROM: Rev. Linda K. Boyd, Episcopal Diocese of Maryland

DATE: February 2, 2024:

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The Episcopal Church at large and the Diocese of Maryland, like the major faith traditions of Christianity, Judaism and Islam, are based upon the concept of loving your neighbor as yourself. Making sure that impoverished families have nutritious food to eat is certainly part of that concept.

Research shows that SNAP makes it easier for families to afford nutritious food without having to sacrifice health care or other basic needs. SNAP boosts an individual's health; helps children perform better in school; helps to lift families out of poverty; and helps them to stay out of poverty.

The Diocese of Maryland requests a favorable report on HB 666.