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Subject: SB35 Final in PDF  
Date: January 16, 2024 at 11:22 AM  
To: Jim Campbell [jimcampbell222@comcast.net](mailto:jimcampbell222@comcast.net), Bresnahan, Tammy [TBresnahan@aarp.org](mailto:TBresnahan@aarp.org)

KK

Hi Jim,  
You may have already done this, but here is your bill in PDF format ready for submission.  
Thank you!!!  
Karen



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**SB35 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – State Supplement  
FAVORABLE  
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee  
Wednesday, January 17, 2024**

Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and members of Budget and Taxation Committee. My name is Jim Campbell, immediate past president of AARP Maryland and former member of the Maryland House of Delegates. I am here to offer AARP's support of SB 35 introduced by Senator Cory McCray.

Senate Bill 35 expands eligibility for State-provided supplemental benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). It repeals the minimum age a household member must be to receive this benefit and increases the amount of the supplemental benefits that the State must provide from \$40 to \$95.

Maryland Hunger Solution has reported more than 600,000 Marylanders live in poverty. The Food and Research Action Center (FRAC) noted the state has the nation's 7<sup>th</sup> highest food insecurity rate among seniors.

Last February, according to the Center on Budget and Priorities, SNAP recipients suffered reductions in benefits due to the end of pandemic-related benefits. These benefits previously reduced food insecurity which had reached a two-decade low for families with children. As a result of the cut in the pandemic-related benefits, SNAP households received on average \$95 less per month – though many households suffered even greater losses.

SB 35 will support older citizens who are dealing with inflation, higher utility bills, and especially the increase in food costs. Poor nutrition can lead to health deficiencies and complications for many seniors. We encourage a favorable report on this bill which can help reduce food insecurity and ensure that older citizens have access to healthy and nutritious food.

For these reasons, AARP requests a favorable vote on SB35 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – State Supplement. If you have questions or would like follow-up information, please contact Tammy Bresnahan at [tbresnahan@aarp.org](mailto:tbresnahan@aarp.org) or by calling 410.302.8451.



