

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 386

**Maryland Meals For Achievement In-Classroom Breakfast Program -
Alterations Maryland Meals For Achievement Flexibility Act of 2024**

House Ways and Means Committee

January 24, 2024

Good afternoon, Chairman Atterbeary, Sponsor Delegate Feldmark and members of the committee.

My name is Mary Klatko. I am the State Legislative Co-Chair for the Maryland School Nutrition Association whose members all work in the School Food and Nutrition Service Programs across the state. Our goal is to provide nutritious meals to all students throughout Maryland in support of their education.

One of the ways we do that is through the Maryland Meals for Achievement Program. HB 386 only change gives us some flexibility in the method of service. Currently, we have to serve the breakfasts in the classrooms at the elementary level. This bill allows us to use many delivery systems just like we have at the middle and high schools. They include cafeteria, classroom and grab and go methods.

I conducted the survey of all school district supervisors and there was total support for his minor change which has **no cost** to the program.

We support the change and urge you to support the change to HB 386.

Thank You for the Opportunity to Testify on behalf of HB 386.