

**SB 772**  
**Maryland Department of Health - Employment Training and Opportunity Database**  
**Senate Finance Committee**  
**March 5, 2026**

**FAVORABLE**

Senate Bill 772 creates an employment training and opportunity database to assist individuals in finding training sufficient to make them eligible and maintain eligibility for the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

The Maryland Food Bank estimates that 1 in 3 Marylanders are at risk of food insecurity. A person who is food insecure does not have consistent access to healthy and nutritious food on any given day, and this problem persists in every area of the state. There are also communities and populations who are disproportionately affected by food insecurity, including families with children. The causes of food insecurity are complex and often include factors such as financial hardship and low income.

The recent changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid through HR1 have already begun to exacerbate these challenges as more neighbors lose access to their both food and healthcare benefits and must turn to the charitable assistance network. Among the most impactful changes to SNAP are the expanded work requirements, which now, for the first time in the program's history, apply to neighbors aged 55-64, parents of children aged 14 and older, veterans, homeless individuals, and those aging out of the foster care system. The Food Bank is already seeing firsthand how burdensome additional paperwork requirements cause neighbors to lose access to SNAP at a time when grocery prices are high across the country.

Given these rising costs and impacts to SNAP, the Maryland Food Bank anticipates that demand will increase, and not meaningfully decrease, for the foreseeable future. SNAP is critical to ensuring neighbors do not go without food during this increase in demand – for every one meal the Food Bank serves, SNAP provides nine. SB 772 will give neighbors that have lost access to SNAP or their healthcare a way to navigate these changes more easily and help along the way by assisting them in enrolling. The Food Bank has heard from neighbors that believe SNAP as a whole is ending; this database will provide a valuable resource in these uncertain times.

For these reasons, the Maryland Food Bank respectfully requests a favorable report on SB 772.