



**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
HB0903 Income Tax Subtraction of Donations to Food Banks and Other
Charitable Entities**

FAVORABLE

TO: Ways and Mean Committee,

**FROM: Susan Allen, member of the Maryland Episcopal Public Policy
Network (MEPPN)**

DATE: February 26, 2026

Dear Chair Wilkins, Vice-Chair Feldmark, and Committee members,

My church St. Anne's Episcopal in Annapolis works hard to provide food to our neighbors who experience food insecurity. For example, our members fill backpacks with food so students can help feed their families over the weekend. The MD Episcopal Diocese makes this statement about its commitment to Housing and Economic Justice:

“Jesus tells us in the Gospel of Matthew how the nations will be judged and it is all about how we have treated the very people that our systems and biases have marginalized.”

Economic Justice includes the rights to food, clothing, proper health care and housing.
(<https://episcopalmaryland.org/advocacy/>)

In this spirit of the right of our neighbors to healthy food and full nutrition, MEPPN supports this bill that will allow generous Marylanders and organizations to **deduct donations of food or cash contributions they provide for food at NO CHARGE TO INDIVIDUAL IN NEED.**

The Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network (MEPPN) is a ministry of The Episcopal Diocese of Maryland, The Episcopal Diocese of Washington, and The Delaware-Maryland Synod ELCA

MEPPN believes that allowing a subtraction on MD income tax filings for donations to Food Banks and Other Charitable Entities will encourage donations and help tax exempt organizations provide even more food for Marylanders in need.

Members of St. Anne's, for example, would qualify for income tax food donations to the Lighthouse Shelter and the Chase Home that helps women and children under threat of homelessness.

The Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network (MEPPN) requests a FAVORABLE report HB0903

Submitted by: Susan Allen
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