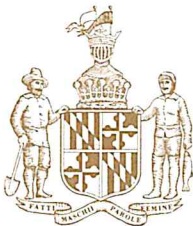


MICHAEL A. JACKSON
Legislative District 27B
Calvert and Prince George's Counties



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 121
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3103 · 301-858-3103
800-492-7122 Ext. 3103
Fax 410-841-3234 · 301-858-3234
Michael.Jackson@house.state.md.us

Vice Chair, Appropriations Committee
Chair, Oversight Committee on Pensions

Public Safety and
Administration Subcommittee

Joint Audit Committee

House Chair

Joint Committee on Cybersecurity,
Information Technology and
Biotechnology

Joint Committee on Fair Practices
and State Personnel Oversight

Joint Committee on Pensions

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony in Support of HB 1145
HB 1145– Maryland Meals for Achievement Fund – Establishment

Delegate Michael A. Jackson

February 28, 2020

Madame Chair and members of the Ways and Means Committee. HB 1145, if enacted would impose the State sales and use tax on the sale of snack food by repealing the current exemption. Snack food is defined as potato chips and sticks, corn chips, pretzels, cheese puffs and curls, pork rinds, extruded pretzels and chips, popped popcorn, and specified snack mixtures. The bill also establishes the Maryland Meals for Achievement Fund and directs all revenue generated from the sales and use tax on snack food to the fund.

In addition, HB 1145 would require the Comptroller to distribute certain sales and use tax revenues from snack foods to the Maryland Meals for Achievement Fund; establishing the Maryland Meals for Achievement Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; specifying the purpose of the Fund; requiring the Department of Education to administer the Fund; requiring the State Treasurer to hold the Fund and the Comptroller to account for the Fund.

According to the MMFA, Maryland leads the country in ensuring that students can start the day ready to learn with the **Maryland Meals for Achievement (MMFA)** program. MMFA provides state funding to supplement federal meal reimbursements so that schools can offer breakfast in the classroom for all students at no charge. In essence, HB 1145 would ensure that Maryland continues to do everything possible to ensure that students without the necessary resources are receiving the nutrition needed to be successful in the learning environment. Moreover, the revenue generated from repealing this text would continue to ensure a favorable outcome. I urge this committee's favorable report.