



March 9, 2021

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh  
Delegate, Maryland General Assembly  
Chair, House Appropriations Committee  
121 House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Support for HB 0891, Hunger-Free Campus College Grant Program

Dear Delegate McIntosh:

On behalf of the [Food and Regional Agriculture Member \(FARM\) Ad Hoc Committee](#) of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), we are writing to offer our support for HB 0891, Hunger-Free Campus College Grant Program. As the association of local governments in Metropolitan Washington, COG supports measures that will increase food security and food system resiliency.

Establishing the Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program to address student hunger and basic food needs on campus is consistent with both FARM's goals and COG's legislative priorities. A central focus of FARM is increasing food security, especially through the expansion of federal nutrition benefit programs like SNAP, along with greater enrollment in these programs among eligible residents as supported by the Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program.

Student hunger is a growing problem, and we support this important step to improve healthy food access on campus. Food security is critical to learning, development, and health. HB 0891 and its companion, SB 0767, represent an important step toward supporting the diversity of students enrolled in community colleges and 4-year institutions in Maryland.

Please contact Lindsay Smith, COG's Regional Food Systems Value Chain Coordinator at (202) 962-3309 or [lsmith@mwkog.org](mailto:lsmith@mwkog.org) if you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures of Mary Cheh and Craig Rice.

Mary Cheh  
Chair, FARM Committee  
District of Columbia

Craig Rice  
Vice Chair, FARM Committee  
Montgomery County

Handwritten signature of Jon Stehle.

Jon Stehle  
Vice Chair, FARM Committee  
City of Fairfax

Cc: Delegate Debra Davis, Sponsor HB 0891  
Senator Mary Washington, Sponsor SB 0767