



# ALLEGANY COUNTY, MARYLAND

## The Board of County Commissioners

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February 11, 2021

The Honorable Anne R. Kaiser, Chair  
House Ways and Means Committee  
House Office Building, Room 131  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chairwoman Kaiser:

I am writing on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners of Allegany County to voice our support for **HB 711: Income Tax – Subtraction Modification – Donations to Diaper Banks and Other Charitable Entities**. The bill allows for a subtraction under the Maryland tax credit of up to \$1,000 of donations of certain disposable diapers and hygiene products. During this economically confounding time for our community, tax credits serve as great incentives for local taxpayers to invest their money in local charitable resources. The resources outlined in HB711 are often overlooked as essential, but Allegany County has one of the highest rates of child poverty in the state. Over 20% of our children sit below the poverty line. Many of our families lack access to disposable diapers and hygiene products. In light of the economic stress brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic, it is more necessary than ever that we find a balance between local accountability and incentivized community growth.

Being in the state's western region, Allegany County is often discounted from access to streamlined resources available elsewhere in the state. The proposed tax credit provides a pathway for local taxpayers to donate and invest in locally managed charitable organizations who understand the shape and the needs of our community. For these reasons, we are respectfully requesting the Committee's **FAVORABLE** consideration of the bill.

Sincerely,

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Jacob C. Shade, President  
Allegany County Board of County Commissioners