

HOUSE BILL 1532

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By: Delegates Solomon, Cain, Acevero, Anderson, Attar, Atterbeary, Bagnall, B. Barnes, D. Barnes, Barron, Bartlett, Barve, Boyce, Bridges, Brooks, Carr, Chang, Charkoudian, Charles, Clippinger, Conaway, Crutchfield, Cullison, D.M. Davis, D.E. Davis, Dumais, Ebersole, Feldmark, Fennell, W. Fisher, Forbes, Fraser-Hidalgo, Gilchrist, Guyton, Harrison, Haynes, Healey, Henson, Hettleman, Hill, Ivey, M. Jackson, Kaiser, Kelly, Korman, Krimm, Lehman, J. Lewis, R. Lewis, Lierman, Lopez, Love, McIntosh, Moon, Mosby, Palakovich Carr, Patterson, Pena-Melnyk, Pendergrass, Proctor, Qi, Queen, Reznik, Rosenberg, Ruth, Sample-Hughes, Shetty, Smith, Stein, Stewart, Terrasa, Turner, Valderrama, Valentino-Smith, Washington, C. Watson, Wells, Wilkins, Williams, K. Young, and P. Young

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2020

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Human Services – Food Supplement Program – Eligibility**
3 **(Protect Against Hunger Act)**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing that the criteria for determining eligibility for the food
5 supplement program in the Department of Human Services are the criteria in effect
6 on a certain date, notwithstanding certain changes in federal law; requiring the
7 State to provide certain food supplement program benefits for which federal funding
8 is not available; and generally relating to the food supplement program.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
10 Article – Human Services
11 Section 5–501
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article – Human Services
16 Section 5–502
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Human Services

5–501.

(a) (1) The Department may implement a food supplement program in accordance with the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

(2) The food supplement program shall include a Restaurant Meals Program in accordance with § 5–505 of this subtitle.

(b) The State shall bear the nonfederal portion of the administrative costs of the food supplement program for each county.

(c) Each local department shall administer the food supplement program:

(1) under the supervision and control of the Department; and

(2) in accordance with the regulations of the Department and federal law.

(d) If a household includes an individual who is at least 62 years old and receives a federally funded benefit in an amount less than \$30 per month under the food supplement program, the State shall provide a supplement to increase the total benefit to \$30 per month.

5–502.

(A) Except as provided in **SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION** AND § 5–503 of this subtitle, if any provision of this subtitle conflicts with any federal law, the federal law shall prevail.

(B) (1) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY CHANGE IN FEDERAL LAW AFTER JULY 1, 2019, THAT LIMITS ELIGIBILITY FOR THE FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, ELIGIBILITY FOR THE FOOD SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM SHALL BE DETERMINED UNDER THE STATE’S ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS IN EFFECT ON JULY 1, 2019.

(2) THE STATE SHALL PROVIDE FOOD SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM BENEFITS TO ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS FOR WHOM FEDERAL FUNDING IS NOT AVAILABLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2020.