FOOD POLICY ACTION COALITION

February 5, 2020

Baltimore City Department of Planning

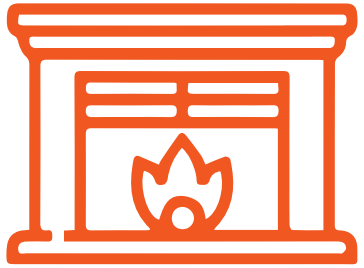
INTRODUCTIONS & UPDATES

40
AND FORWARD
MARYLAND
FOOD BANK
It takes more than food to end hunger.

1 in 9

Marylanders do not know where their next meals are coming from

Many are forced to make tough choices.



Last year, with the help of our volunteers and donors, we moved the equivalent of 37 million meals

That's 45 million pounds of food!

Where does it all come from?

- Donations from retailers, distributors, and manufacturers
- Contract growing
- Purchasing
- Government commodities
- Middle Mile Program Vendors

HOW DO WE DISTRIBUTE FOOD?

4 MFB PROGRAMS

- School Pantries
- Summer and Supper Clubs
- Pantry on the Go
- Heart Markets

4 GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS

- The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)
- SNAP Outreach (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)
- Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) "My Groceries to Go"
- Department of Social Services (DSS) Boxes

250+ NETWORK PARTNERS

- Food Pantries
- Shelters
- Hot Meal Kitchens

Programs Strategy

Be Maryland's food assistance safety net

Provide pathways out of hunger

Thank you!

For being part of the movement to

END HUNGER.

ABAWD Policy Update

MD Hunger Solutions

What is an ABAWD?

An Able-Bodied Adult Without Dependents (ABAWD) is:

- Age 18-50
- Unfit for work due to a mental, physical, or emotional disability
- Has no dependent adults or children in their care

Under current USDA regulations, ABAWDs can only receive SNAP benefits for 3 months in a 36 month period unless they meet a “work requirement” of 20+ hours a week of work, job training, volunteering, and/or seeking work.

Waivers

A waiver to the work requirement can be submitted by the governor for any jurisdiction that meets a certain level of unemployment. In MD; the Eastern Shore, Western MD, and Baltimore City are all waived jurisdictions.

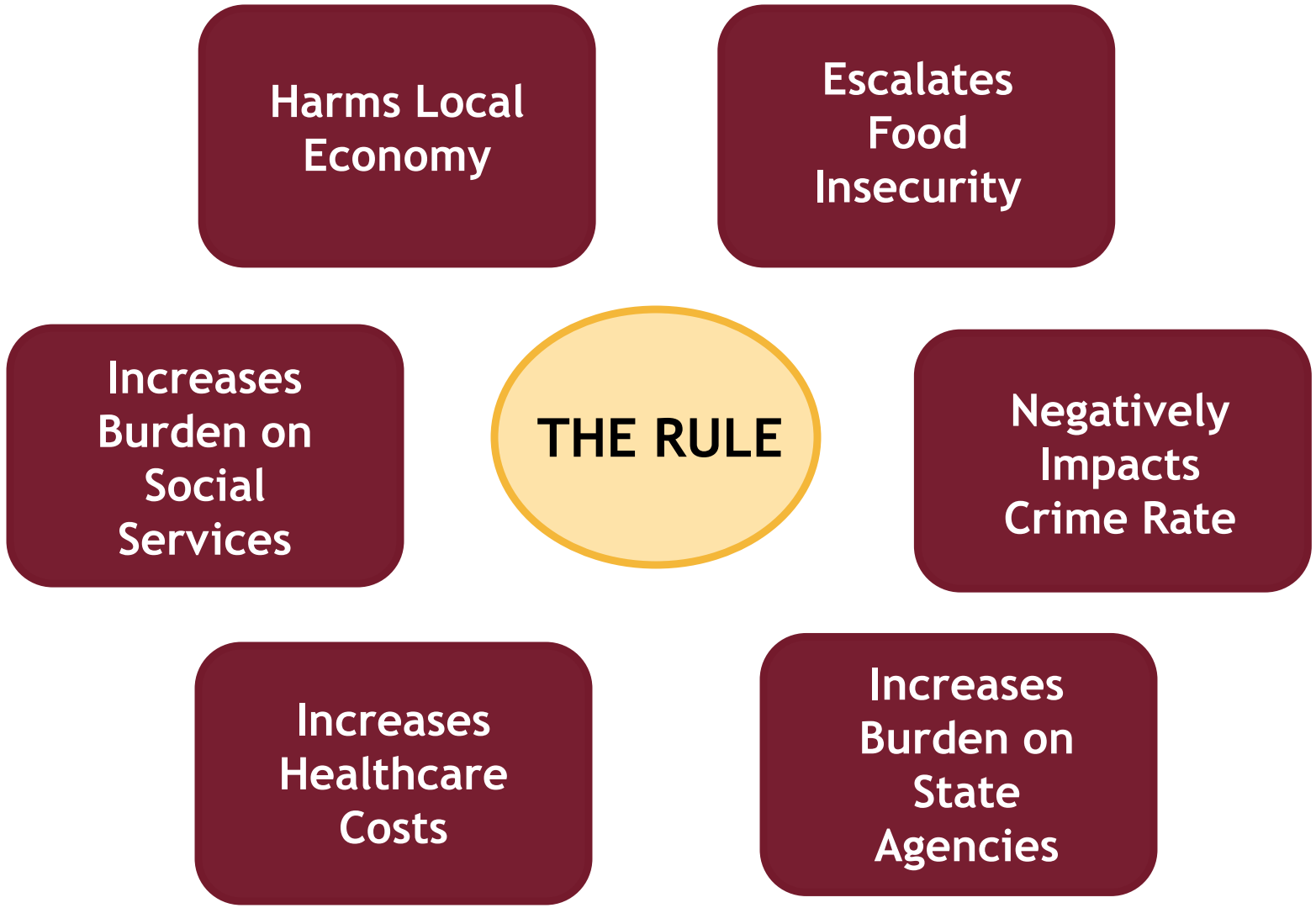
Proposed Change

- To go into effect April 1, 2020
- Increases level of unemployment in jurisdiction needed to apply for waiver
- Eliminates most jurisdictions from having the waiver
- 23,664 ABAWDs would be affected (DHS)

What can be done?

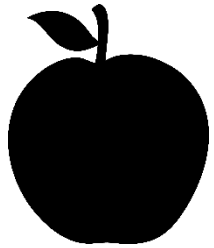
- Categorizing ABAWDs as unfit for work
- Boosting participation in SNAP E&T programs
- Educating current ABAWDs
- Litigation - Thank AG Frosh!

IMPACT ON BALTIMORE CITY



IMPACT ON BALTIMORE CITY

- **Escalates Food Insecurity**
  - 1 in 5 residents are food insecure
  - 23.5% of residents live in Healthy Food Priority Areas
- **Harms Local Economy**
  - 11,000-15,000 ABAWDs anticipated to lose SNAP benefits
  - $24.4-33.3 million dollar loss from SNAP spending
- **Increases Healthcare Costs**
  - Food Insecurity is associated with poorer general and mental health for individuals of all ages
  - Low-income adults on SNAP spend ~25% less on medical costs than non-participants



IMPACT ON BALTIMORE CITY

- **Negatively Impacts Crime Rate**
  - Increases in food insecurity in the US results in increased violent crime
  - ABAWDs will lose SNAP July 1, 2020 – corresponds with typical seasonal peak in crime in Baltimore City
- **Increases Burden on State Agencies**
  - Baltimore City Department of Social Services (BCDSS) and Maryland Department of Human Services (DHS)
  - Maryland's SNAP E&T program currently serves only a few hundred ABAWD
    - Insufficient workforce development
- **Increases Burden on Community Based Organizations**
  - Social services will become more strained as they are sought after by more people
  - Current services will not be able to absorb increased demand

Questions?

DISCUSSION GROUPS

DISCUSSION GROUPS

SNAP/ABAWD
JD Robinson & Holly Freishtat

Maryland Food Bank / FoodWorks
Tim Regan

Food Procurement
Allison & Dan Corbett

Corner Stores
Alice Huang

FOOD POLICY ACTION COALITION

USING AN EQUITY LENS

PROCEDURAL EQUITY

Inclusive, accessible, authentic engagement and representation in processes to develop or implement programs and policies

QUESTION: How are residents who have been historically excluded from planning processes being authentically included in planning, implementation, and evaluation of the proposed policy or project?

DISTRIBUTIONAL EQUITY

Programs and policies result in fair distributions of benefits and burdens across all segments of a community, prioritizing those with highest need

QUESTION: Does the distribution of resources and investment explicitly account for potentially racially disparate outcomes?

STRUCTURAL EQUITY

Decision makers institutionalize accountability; decisions are made with a recognition of the historical, cultural, and institutional dynamics and structures that have routinely advantaged privileged groups in society and resulted in chronic cumulative disadvantage for subordinated groups

QUESTION: What historic advantages or disadvantages have affected residents in the given community?
And how are policies and programs addressing them?

TRANSGENERATIONAL EQUITY

Decisions consider generational impacts and don't result in unfair burdens on future generations

QUESTION: Does the policy or project result in unfair burdens on future generations?

CLOSING

THANK YOU!

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https://planning.baltimorecity.gov/Baltimore-food-policy-initiative