



2023 CASH Campaign of Maryland Legislative Agenda

The CASH (Creating Assets, Savings and Hope) Campaign of Maryland is a nonprofit organization that seeks to promote economic advancement for low-to-moderate income individuals and families in Baltimore and across Maryland.

Ensuring Economic Security for Marylanders

Tax Credit Expansions: The RELIEF Act provided Marylanders with financial assistance to help combat the negative impact of COVID-19. The Act distributed aid through tax credit expansions that are set to expire in 2023. CASH is committed to making the recent tax credit expansions permanent, so families that were vulnerable pre-pandemic can continue to receive help.

- **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC):** Single Maryland filers who are unable to claim dependents, who qualify for the Federal EITC, will now receive a 100% match to the Federal EITC until 2023. This expansion reaches low-wage earners including first-time expectant mothers, non-custodial parents, aging out foster-youth, single men struggling to remain engaged in the workforce, and young veterans.
- **ITIN Filers:** Maryland's EITC was temporarily expanded to include low-income immigrant families who pay taxes but are not currently eligible for the federal EITC. These workers pay over \$100 million in taxes annually without being eligible for most tax credits or public assistance programs. CASH supports legislation to make ITIN filers permanently eligible for the EITC.
- **Child Tax Credit (CTC):** For the first time, Maryland has established a state CTC. This credit is currently limited in its capacity to provide relief for working families with children. CASH supports expanding this credit and making it permanent.

Baby Bonds: The goal of a Baby Bond program is to provide capital, at age 18, for young adults to begin wealth building activities like pursuing higher education, purchasing a home, starting a small business, and saving for retirement. They provide resources to children whose households have the lowest amount of wealth. They are a pathway to close the racial wealth divide and provide an equitable start for lower-income populations. This is accomplished by setting money in a pooled trust account for every low-income baby born in Maryland until eligible participants claim their share at age 18. CASH supports exploring the assorted options for a Baby Bonds program in Maryland. Please read Prosperity Now's [A Brighter Future with Baby Bonds](#) to learn more.

Strengthening the Safety Net for Workers

Social safety nets support members of our society when they need it most. These programs must be strengthened to ensure that Marylanders are able to recover from financial emergencies and economic downturns.

- **Unemployment Insurance System:** Claimants are experiencing problems with the Unemployment Insurance System which is leaving many recipients without benefits or with a lower amount than which they are entitled. Issues that claimants are experiencing include trouble with BEACON, incorrect overpayment notices, and problems with redetermination. CASH supports strengthening the unemployment system, so it works for people who need it.

For more information, please visit www.cashmd.org or contact Tonaeya Moore at tonaeya@cashmd.org

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- ***Paid Family Leave*** (Led by the Time to Care Coalition): The Time to Care Act of 2022 established a state Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program. The Time to Care Coalition will monitor the implementation of this program and introduce legislation to ensure the program has the intended impact. Please visit the Time to Care Coalition [website](#) for more information.

Increasing Consumer Protections

CASH is dedicated to supporting legislation that increases consumer protection laws and laws that protect critical systems from digital threats.

Medical Debt (Led by Economic Action Maryland and End Medical Debt Coalition): During the 2022 legislative session, HB 694 passed which allows patients sued by hospitals for medical care when they qualified for free care to be reimbursed. In 2023, CASH will work with the [End Medical Debt Coalition](#) to ensure that this legislation is appropriately implemented and has the intended impact. We will also work to ensure that there are adequate financial assistance programs for low-income patients. Check out Economic Action Maryland's [Medical Debt Freedom Fund](#).

Student Loan Debt (Led by Student Borrower Protection Center): CASH will fight to hold private student loan lenders accountable and increase protections for student loan borrowers.

Consumer Protection and Cybersecurity: CASH supports consumer protection laws that require businesses that store personal information to increase their security and reduce predatory debt collection practices.

Supporting Accessible and Affordable Transportation

Discrimination in Auto Insurance (Led by Economic Action Maryland and Job Opportunities Task Force): We plan to work with our partners to eliminate non-driving related factors for determining auto insurance rates and establish a low-cost auto insurance program in Maryland.

Promoting Economic Advancement for Low-to-Moderate Income Individuals and Families

CASH will accomplish its mission to promote economic advancement for low-to-moderate income individuals and families through supporting legislation that will increase the financial stability of Marylanders. This includes supporting legislation that increases access to utilities, strengthens workers' connection to the workforce, and supports nonprofits who do essential work across the state.

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