



Testimony in Support of SB165

Korean American Day

**** Favorable ****

**To: Senator Brian J. Feldman, Chair, Senator Cheryl C. Kagan, Vice Chair,
and members of the Education, Energy and The Environment Committee**

**From: Rev. Linda K. Boyd, co-chair, Maryland Episcopal Public Policy
Network, Diocese of Maryland**

Date: March 13, 2025

Every January 13th, Korean American Day in other states honors the rich heritage and contributions of Korean Americans to the United States. This date marks the arrival of the first Korean immigrants in 1903, when 102 pioneers landed in Hawaii to work on sugar plantations. January 13th is known as Seollal (Lunar New Year's Day) and is the first day of the Korean lunar calendar and the most celebrated traditional holiday in Korea. In establishing this day, we will be taking another step toward honoring the contributions of all Americans regardless of where they came from. The Episcopal Diocese supports this Bill because it recognizes the role of Korean Americans in our history and accordingly respects their dignity as children of God.

We respectfully request a favorable vote on SB 165.