



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MARYLAND

The Maryland Episcopal
Public Policy
Network

Testimony in Support of SJ 0004

Use of Nuclear Weapons

****FAVORABLE****

TO: Senator Brian J. Feldman, Chair; Senator Cheryl C. Kagan, Vice Chair; and the members of the Senate Education, Energy and the Environment Committee

FROM: Rev. Ken Phelps, Jr., Director, Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network, Diocese of Maryland

DATE: March 13, 2025

In 2022, the General convention of the Episcopal Church, USA passed Resolution 2022-CO 27 which states that “the Episcopal Church renounces the option of using nuclear weapons first and supports pursuing a verifiable agreement among nuclear armed nations to eliminate their arsenals as established in the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.”

Additionally, the Episcopal Church, following Jesus' commandment to love God with our whole heart, soul and mind, and to love our neighbors as ourselves, endorses the goals of organizations such as “Back from the Brink: the Call to Prevent Nuclear War” and the “International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons” and calls on all Episcopalians to continue to work in support of the goal of total nuclear disarmament as expressed in resolution (1997-D022) and the dismantling existing U.S. nuclear weapons (2009-D060).

The Diocese of Maryland requests a favorable report.

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