



TESTIMONY - FAVORABLE

**HB 115 Election Law - Individuals Released From State
Correctional Facilities - Automatic Restoration of Voter
Registration**

TO: Honorable Delegate Melissa Wells, Chair, Delegate Kenneth Kerr, Vice
Chair, and Members of the Government, Labor, and Elections Committee

FROM: The Rev. Linda K. Boyd, member of the Maryland Episcopal Public
Policy Network (MEPPN)

DATE: February 4, 2026

The Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network offers favorable testimony in
support of HB115. Our congregations serve people throughout Maryland.

Formerly incarcerated people have paid their debt to society. They deserve to
be able to be productive citizens of the State of Maryland. Often this does not
occur because there is no mechanism that provides for this. A person who is
freed is struggling to survive amid many pitfalls without adequate support. A
person's right to vote is a fundamental right in our society. This Bill provides
an automatic mechanism by which the will be reinstated.

For these reasons, the Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network urges this
committee to issue a favorable report on HB115.

*The Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network (MEPPN) is a ministry of The Episcopal Diocese
of Maryland, The Episcopal Diocese of Washington, and The Delaware-Maryland Synod ELCA*