



## **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB0294**

**Criminal Procedure – Protection of Identity of Victim of Sexual Assault or Stalking**

### **FAVORABLE**

TO: Chair William C. Smith, Jr., Vice Chair Jeff Waldstriecher and members of the of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Lynn Mortoro, member of the Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network (MEPPN)

DATE: February 5, 2026

Dear Chair Senator Smith, Vice Chair Senator Waldstriecher and all members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to testify for this bill.

I have always believed in the rights of victims to their privacy, especially those who have been assaulted either physically or emotionally. It is vital that they are able to feel safe. The records must be kept private so that the person who has been assaulted does not have to worry about further encounters with the assailant.

I am a member of the Episcopal Church. The Church has longstanding resolutions and statements about these matters.

The Church supports governmental actions that protect the rights of victims of violent acts and urge all Episcopalians to strive for justice and healing through prayer, advocacy, care, and action.

The Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network (MEPPN) requests a

**FAVORABLE report**

*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*