Testimony Prepared for the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee on House Bill 1110

March 22, 2022 Position: **Favorable**

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to support the protection of Maryland children and foster their health and growth. I am Lee Hudson, assistant to the bishop for public policy in the Delaware-Maryland Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, a faith community with three synods in every part of our State.

We believe that health and safety are matters of public interest, especially when those who are vulnerable and without agency are concerned. The policy addressed with **House Bill 1110** would affect children first and most.

House Bill 1110 revises the reference level of measurable lead in the blood to the current CDC standard. This will lower the Maryland standard for what is regarded as safe or acceptable.

Because lowering the level of lead deemed "safe" will likely and directly affect the health and safety of children, we support this bill and ask a favorable report.

Lee Hudson