TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF BILL HB0227

State Government – Legal and Employee Holiday – Juneteenth National Independence Day

TO: Chair Pendergrass, Vice Chair Pena-Melnyk, and members of the Health and Government Operations Committee FROM: Chris Apple 7001 Cradlerock Farm Court Columbia, MD 21045 District 13

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I am strongly in support of making Juneteenth an official holiday. It is a very meaningful event in American history, and would be an excellent time for Marylanders to reflect on the conditions leading up to Emancipation. I think many Marylanders privately celebrate Juneteenth already, and seeing this holiday recognized at the state level would mean a lot to them.

I respectfully urge the committee to issue a favorable report for HB0227.