



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MARYLAND

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 0957:

Public Safety - Handgun Permit Application Fee - Waiver for Disabled Residents

****UNFAVORABLE****

March 1, 2022

TO: Hon. Luke Clippinger, Chair, Hon. David Moon, Vice Chair and the members of the House Judiciary Committee

FROM: Rev. Kenneth O. Phelps, Jr., Co-Chair, Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network, Diocese of Maryland

DATE: March 1, 2022

The Episcopal Church, and the Diocese of Maryland have consistently - through their adopted resolutions - called for stricter regulation of firearms and by their actions have sought ways to limit the proliferation of firearms and our cultural fascination with violence.

We view this bill as another attempt to encourage and in turn increase the number of guns in circulation, and also fear that it would be ripe for abuse by those who seek to obtain firearms by any means.

The Diocese of Maryland requests an unfavorable report.