



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE  
OF MARYLAND

The Maryland Episcopal  
Public Policy  
Network

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 0552  
Family Prosperity Act of 2023**

**\*\*FAVORABLE\*\***

**TO: Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair, Senator Jim Rosapepe, Vice Chair, and members of the Budget and Taxation Committee**

**FROM: Rev. Linda K. Boyd, Co-Chair, Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network, Diocese of Maryland**

**DATE: March 1, 2023**

Families today are struggling. Times are difficult with increased prices of virtually everything that a family needs to survive and thrive. We are concerned, as a people of faith who believe that each person is a beloved child of God, about their struggle. They need our help. In 2021, the Maryland General Assembly passed legislation that created the state's first Child Tax Credit ("CTC"), that provided a temporary tax credit for families with an adjusted gross income of \$6,000 or less for each qualified child. This bill will extend its applicability to families with an adjusted gross income of \$15,000. This bill will also, in part, make permanent the CTC and extend its applicability to all children under 6 years of age. It will also strengthen the benefits of the Maryland Earned Income Tax Credit ("EITC").

The benefits created by this bill are essential to helping low-income families to provide for necessities of life. This is an important step toward assisting such families and will thus benefit the entire community.

We strongly request a favorable report.