



**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 0019**

**Equity in Transportation Sector---Guidelines and Analyses**

**FAVORABLE**

**TO: Senator Melony Griffith, Chair. Senator Katherine Klausmeier and members of the Senate Finance Committee**

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

**DATE: February 1, 2023:**

The Episcopal Church at large and the Diocese of Maryland in particular has embraced the concept of reparations, a concept not limited to financial considerations but to a leveling of the playing field across a broad spectrum of issues, including achieving equity in quality-of-life issues, such as transportation.

SB 19 will take important steps to rectify well-entrenched transportation policies that have resulted in unfairly and disproportionately affecting communities of color. Rectifying such inequities is long overdue. Equity in transportation is sorely needed. It is a critical aspect of being able to get to employment, day care, medical care, etc. Without access to accessible transportation, one suffers serious disruption daily merely in trying to accomplish necessary everyday needs.

The Diocese of Maryland requests a favorable report on SB 19.