



**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 0547:**  
**Family Prosperity Act**  
**of 2023**

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

**TO:** Delegate Vanessa E. Atterbear, Chair, Delegate Jheanelle K. Wilkins, Vice Chair and the members of the House Ways and Means Committee

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

**DATE:** February 16, 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.