



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MARYLAND

The Maryland Episcopal
Public Policy
Network

FAVORABLE SJ0005 ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION-CURRICULUM- IMPORTANCE OF DIVERSITY

**TO: Senator Brian J. Feldman, Chair, Senator Cheryl C. Kagan, Vice Chair, and
the members of the Senate Education, Energy and the Environment Committee**

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

DATE: March 7, 2025

In 2006, the Episcopal General convention passed Resolution 2006 – A127 which stated in part; “[t]hat in the spirit of inclusion, dioceses also be invited to determine whether their call is to conduct truth and reconciliation processes in regard to other histories and legacies of racial discrimination and oppression that may be applicable in their geographic area, while not diminishing the strong call to focus on the history and legacy of slavery;”

A broad and balanced curriculum has been defined as one that “provides children with the skills, knowledge and understanding they need to develop into well-rounded, informed individuals.” It is impossible to make a well-informed decision if one does not have the full background and context. A responsible citizen needs to have such a context in order to understand the current situation. Our democracy depends on having citizens who study all of our history. As Winston Churchill said during World War II, paraphrasing George Santayana, “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”

We expect Germany to teach the Holocaust for that very reason. We need to provide our children with full knowledge of all aspects of our history. Our democracy depends upon it. Our population is diverse, from many cultures. Our teaching of American history should reflect that diversity.

We strongly request a favorable report.