



**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB1055  
COMMISSION ON NONDISCRIMINATION-ESTABLISHMENT  
\*\*FAVORABLE\*\***

**TO: Delegate Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk, Chair, Delegate Bonnie Cullison, Vice Chair and the members of the House Health and Government Operations Committee**

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

**Date: March 10, 2025**

One of the core beliefs of The Episcopal Church is that we should strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being, i.e., every child of God. We believe that we need to fight recent efforts on the national level to erode the rights of each individual and to choose hate over love. Our faith tradition proclaims that ‘God is love.’ With this biblical decree in mind, we support all efforts to prioritize the dignity of all people, defend the rights of the vulnerable and marginalized, and work toward policies that reduce harm and hardship.

Actions that discriminate and erode the individual rights of each person are occurring so quickly and are so numerous and wide-spread that it is difficult to know what is happening. This commission will assist our efforts to combat these wide-spread discriminatory actions.

The Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network asks a favorable vote on HB1055.