

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB0007 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION-Human Trafficking Awareness, Training and Response. (See Someone, Save Someone Act)

Requiring the Maryland Department of Transportation to develop or identify and implement a certain training program for transportation sector employees on the identification and reporting of suspected human trafficking victims. Requires certification of training and when new employees are to complete the initial training. It removes civil and criminal liability for reporting.

FAVORABLE

TO: Judicial Proceedings Committee Chair Senator William C. Smith Jr, Vice Chair Senator Jeff Waldstreicher and all Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Lynn R. Mortoro, Member of Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network (MEPPN)

DATE: January 22, 2025

Chair Smith and Vice Chair Waldstreicher and all members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in favor of SB0007.

The position of the Episcopal Church is that it is time to end human trafficking. The Church has long supported legislation which aims to combat human trafficking. The training of people who are in positions to observe and report possible victims absolutely falls into the category of helping to end this nightmare for so many victims, most of whom are women and children.

The Diocese of Maryland requests a favorable report.

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