



**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1530**

**Higher Education – Undocumented Students – Out-of-State Tuition  
Exemption**

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

**TO: Delegate Ben Barnes, Chair, Delegate Anne R. Kaiser, Vice Chair and  
members of the Appropriations Committee**

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

**DATE: March 11, 2026**

We all know that the ability to obtain a higher education improves the ability to be self-supporting and to be a contributing member of society. Undocumented students face difficult challenges such as language barriers, bias against immigrants. They also face the problem of tuition payments. Giving in-state tuition can help undocumented students graduate from high school and college which can lead to higher incomes and tax contributions.

Providing in-state tuition can help undocumented students contribute to Maryland's economy and the U.S. economy. In-state tuition can help lower the dropout rate among youth and encourage postsecondary education, thus helping the society at large.

This Bill simply eliminates the requirement that a Maryland tax return must be filed, in order to qualify for in-state tuition.

The Episcopal Diocese of Maryland urges a favorable vote.