MEPPN
Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB1559

Children in Unlicensed Settings and Pediatric Hospital Overstay Patients - Placement

FAVORABLE

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

FROM: Lynn Mortoro, member of the Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network (MEPPN)

DATE: March 3, 2026

Dear Chair Delegate Barnes, Vice Chair Delegate Kaiser and all members of the House Appropriations Committee.

I am a mother, grandmother and a member of the Episcopal Church.

This bill offers more protection of children who are unable to return to their home, for whatever reason. It offers supervision and safe accommodation for them. We, as a community have a duty to care for our children in the best way possible.

The Episcopal Church advises that we are to "support the child welfare system and the needs of children who are in foster care as well as their families.
We need to be involved in creating an equal access to resources and funding for all children
who are involved in child protective and foster care systems;"

The Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network (MEPPN) requests a FAVORABLE report

The Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network (MEPPN) is a ministry of The Episcopal Diocese of Maryland, The Episcopal Diocese of Washington, and The Delaware-Maryland Synod ELCA