



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB0385

Public Health - Recommendations for Immunizations, Screenings, and Preventive Services - Pharmacist Administration and Required Health Insurance Coverage (The Vax Act)

FAVORABLE

TO: Chair Senator Pamela Beidle, Vice Chair Senator Antonio Hayes and members of the Senate Finance committee

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

DATE: February 10, 2026

Dear Chair Senator Beidle, Vice Chair Senator Antonio Hayes and all members of the Senate Finance Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this very important bill.

I am a retired registered nurse as well as a wife, mother and grandmother. I have learned about the devastation that occurs without vaccinations. A cousin had polio as a child and had a recurrence when he became older and was wheelchair bound.

Vaccinations are vital for a healthy community.

I am also a member of the Episcopal Church which supports science and vaccinations.

Scientific evidence helps us to better understand God's creation, our place in it, and ways to alleviate suffering and pain. Clarify that The Episcopal Church asserts the proper and responsible use of vaccines is a duty not only to our own selves and families but to our communities and that the church does not recognize religious exemptions to vaccination requirements for our members

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