

CAROLYN A. QUATTROCKI
Chief Deputy Attorney General

LEONARD J. HOWIE III
Deputy Attorney General

CARRIE J. WILLIAMS
Deputy Attorney General

SHARON S. MERRIWEATHER
Deputy Attorney General

ZENITA WICKHAM HURLEY
Deputy Attorney General



PETER V. BERNS
General Counsel

CHRISTIAN E. BARRERA
Chief of Staff

STATE OF MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

ANTHONY G. BROWN
Attorney General

March 17, 2026

TO: The Honorable Melissa Wells
Chair, Government, Labor, and Elections Committee

FROM: Tiffany Clark
Director, Legislative Affairs, Office of the Attorney General

RE: House Bill 1056 - General Provisions – Commemorative Days – Purple
Lights Night (Support)

The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) supports House Bill 1056 - General Provisions – Commemorative Days – Purple Lights Night. HB 1056 requires the Governor to annually proclaim October 1 as Purple Lights Night to honor victims and survivors of domestic violence in Maryland and to express the State's commitment to eliminating domestic violence.

This legislation directly supports our efforts to stand with survivors of domestic violence and to affirm the State's enduring commitment to their safety and dignity. Domestic violence remains one of the most pervasive and devastating forms of violence affecting Marylanders, cutting across every community, demographic, and county in the State. Purple Lights Night is a recognized tradition among domestic violence advocates nationwide, and codifying the Governor's annual proclamation in State law gives that recognition permanence and institutional weight that extends beyond any single administration.

Attorney General Brown has long championed efforts to combat domestic violence and ensure that survivors have access to the justice, resources, and support they deserve. A state-sanctioned day of acknowledgment sends a clear message to survivors that Maryland sees them, honors their resilience, and remains committed to the work of ending domestic violence.

We appreciate the General Assembly's work on this important policy and welcome the opportunity to share our perspective. For the foregoing reasons, the Office of the Attorney General respectfully urges the Committee to give House Bill 1056 a favorable report.

Cc: Members of the Committee