



TESTIMONY - UNFAVORABLE

**HB 0067 State Government - State House Trust - Ten
Commandments Monument Display Act**

TO: Honorable Delegate Melissa Wells, Chair, Delegate Kenneth Kerr, Vice
Chair, and Members of the Government, Labor, and Elections Committee
FROM: The Rev. Linda K. Boyd, member of the Maryland Episcopal Public
Policy Network (MEPPN)
DATE: February 17, 2026

The Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network offers unfavorable testimony
in opposition to HB0067. Our congregations serve people throughout
Maryland.

We are opposing this bill because it is contrary to the fundamental freedom of
religion for all children of God as endorsed by our National Church. It is also
contrary to the Bill of Rights, First Amendment of the United States
Constitution and the Maryland Declaration of Right that guarantee freedom of
religion as a fundamental right. This includes the freedom not to believe in a
higher being. The posting of the Ten Commandments in a Maryland
Governmental building would imply an endorsement by Maryland of the Ten
Commandments. Such posting would violate the principles of the First
Amendment and the Maryland Declaration of rights, as well as the
fundamental principle of separation of church and state.

For these reasons, the Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network urges this
committee to issue an unfavorable report on HB0067.

*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*