



TESTIMONY - FAVORABLE

**HB 219 Maryland Voting Rights Act of 2026 - Voter
Intimidation and Suppression**

TO: Honorable Delegate Melissa Wells, Chair, Delegate Kenneth Kerr, Vice Chair, and Members of the Government, Labor, and Elections Committee

FROM: Rev. Linda K. Boyd, member of the Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network (MEPPN)

DATE: February 11, 2026

The Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network offers favorable testimony in support of HB219. Our congregations serve people throughout Maryland.

The Episcopal Church, General Convention Resolution 2018-D003, calls on all states to cease and desist efforts to suppress the voting rights of American Citizens. We “call on governments on all levels to create policies to enhance voter participation by, among other strategies, seeking to implement policies that will increase early voting, extend registration periods, guarantee an adequate number of voting locations, allow absentee balloting without the necessity of having an excuse, and prohibit forms of identification that restrict voter participation.”

We follow the rulings of our National Church. For these reasons, the Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network urges this committee to issue a favorable report on HB219.

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