

HB0661_RichardKaplowitz_FAV

03/17/2026

Richard Keith Kaplowitz
Frederick, MD 21703

TESTIMONY ON HB#0661 – FAVORABLE

General Provisions - Commemorative Months - Muslim American Heritage and Jewish American Heritage Months

TO: Chair Wells, Vice Chair Kerr and members of the Government, Labor, and Elections Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard K. Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB#0661, General Provisions - Commemorative Months - Muslim American Heritage and Jewish American Heritage Months

LiveWorkMaryland states that *MARYLAND LIFE: DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION*¹

All Are Welcome. No matter what your race, ethnicity, gender or sexuality — you're welcome in Maryland. Maryland is the most diverse state on the East Coast. As declared by Arija, Chief of Staff, Cloudforce "There is such rich diversity here – a true mix of people. You can see there's a conscious effort to celebrate differences and foster inclusivity."

Maryland's values are that we leave NO ONE behind – this bill is submitted to recognize and celebrate some of the groups that add to our states diversity.

This bill will require the Governor annually to proclaim the month of January as Muslim American Heritage month and the month of May as Jewish American Heritage month; and require the proclamations to urge certain organizations to observe the months with certain programs and activities.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report and pass HB0661.

¹ <https://liveworkmaryland.com/live/diversity-equity-inclusion/>