



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB1114

HIV Prevention Drugs - Prescribing, Dispensing, and Insurance Coverage

FAVORABLE

TO: Chair Delegate Heather Bagnall, Delegate Bonnie Cullison and members of the House Health Committee

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

DATE: March 4, 2026

Dear Chair Delegate Bagnall, Vice Chair Delegate Cullison and all members of the of the House Health Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to give testimony on this bill.

As a retired Registered nurse who was working during the initial phase of the HIV epidemic, I remember those days with horror. I also worked in Hospice and cared for these patients whose disease rapidly progressed. There was no help for them other than pain medications and some HIV drugs that had side effects so horrible that people chose to stop treatment rather than continue. We need to make the prevention of disease easier rather than more difficult. This benefits all of us.

The Episcopal Church asks us to support the removal of socially-determined barriers to health care. By preventing the potential development of a devastating disease, we are allowing our fellow community members to live their lives safely without judgment or prejudice.

**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