



Delaware-Maryland Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Testimony prepared for the
Ways and Means Committee
on
House Bill 1007
February 22, 2024
Position: **Favorable**

Madam Chair and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of sufficient livelihood all. I am Lee Hudson, assistant to the bishop for public policy in the Delaware-Maryland Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; a faith community with three synods in every part of the Maryland.

Progressive taxation was advocated by our community in “Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All” (ELCA, 1999).

Maryland is a very wealthy state with a fairly regressive tax code. Those two effects are typically not accidents. **House Bill 1007** would establish more tiered, that is, progressive tax brackets so that the benefits of the productive economy would result in less inequality.

We urge a favorable report.

Lee Hudson