The Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington (JCRC) submits this testimony in support of HB 2124, because the public health crisis we are facing is a clear emergency, and ensuring widespread testing for, treatment of, and vaccination against COVID-19 is a necessity for individuals and the community at large. Access to COVID-19 related treatment and services will improve individual health outcomes, as well as curb the spread of this virus throughout the Commonwealth and beyond. Enabling all individuals to get treatment – both preventative and therapeutic – ultimately will reduce the burdens on our medical facilities and on society.

JCRC is honored to present this testimony on behalf of over 100 local synagogues, schools, and institutions, including a network of agencies that provide excellent cost-effective social services to the community at-large on a non-sectarian basis. We are guided by Jewish law, history, and tradition, which insists that we assist in the caretaking of all immigrants.