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CLANCYWORKS

January 24, 2020



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 135  
Admissions and Amusement Tax – Distribution to Maryland State Arts  
Council

Thank you for your consideration of HB135. Originally signed into law as Chapter 145 (April 2016), this legislation removes the sunset provision and continues the distribution of \$1 million to the Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC) through the Perseveration of Cultural Arts (POCA) monies. This \$1 million distribution has helped to bring continued investment towards MSAC over the past 5 years.

ClancyWorks Dance Company would like to express support for MD HB-135. MSAC provides invaluable services to the arts organizations of Maryland. ClancyWorks, like many small arts organizations, would probably not exist without the support of MSAC.

Funding from MSAC allows us to provide arts programs to students and teachers in Maryland public schools, colleges, and universities; to seniors in nursing homes; and to the community as a whole. These programs help students to perform better in school, improve their emotional health, and teach them important skills like cooperation and communication. Our dance programs for seniors help participants to preserve their physical, cognitive, and emotional wellbeing longer than they would without access to arts programming. Finally, publicly funded arts programming like ours makes the arts accessible to more people in the community, and makes Maryland a more desirable place to live.

MSAC supports our programming through both general operating funding and programming grants available throughout the year.

ClancyWorks is just one of many organizations to receive support from the Maryland State Arts Council and the local arts councils. Guaranteeing them funding will allow them to help more organizations and improve the lives of Maryland residents.

For these reasons, I ask for a FAVORABLE REPORT on HB 135.

Thank you for your consideration.  
Sincerely,

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