SB370 Favorable Michele Westfall

March 3, 2022

Dear Senators Pinsky and Kagan,

My name is Michele Westfall and I'm the chair of the Maryland Advisory Council on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (MACDHH). I'm submitting my written testimony on SB370, and my position on this bill is Favorable, because many members within Maryland's Deaf and Hard of Hearing community appreciate being able to receive translation with full cultural and linguistic expertise from Deaf and Hard of Hearing interpreters. This is especially true within schools where Maryland's Deaf and Hard of Hearing children urgently need Deaf cultural and language role models, and this bill will help meet the need.

Please pass this bill.

Thank you,

Michele Westfall Chair, Maryland Advisory Council on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

(My address: 17 Steiner Way, Apt. 101, Frederick, MD 21701)