



WAREHOUSE™

C I N E M A S

HB 264 - Places of Accommodation – Motion Picture Houses - Captioning

House Economic Matters Committee

February 8, 2023

Position: Unfavorable

Testimony: Kyle Kops, District Manager

On behalf of Warehouse Cinemas, we respectfully oppose HB 264. Warehouse Cinemas has made it a practice to consistently provide open caption film selections and showtimes at our locations. However, we believe the cinema operators in the State of Maryland should not have an open caption schedule mandate, but rather work with the communities in which they operate to determine the open caption schedule that best serves our guests.

The CC/ALD/DV devices we offer continue to receive positive feedback regarding their reliability, ease of use, and availability. This allows us to provide closed captioning on almost every movie, at every showtime, every day, and then offer open caption showings at select times that meet our patrons' requests. We are also compliant with federal law on all accessibility requirements in this regard.

In conclusion, we believe that our voluntary open caption programs are more than sufficient for the communities we operate in, and Warehouse Cinemas is opposed to a one-size-fits-all mandate that could be extremely economically damaging and completely unnecessary.

Therefore, we respectfully request that you vote unfavorably on HB 264.

Sincerely,

Kyle Kops, District Manager
kyle@warehousecinemas.com