Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Norma Moran, and I am Deaf. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill,** sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

Captioning, also known as same-language subtitles, benefits everyone who watches videos (children, adolescents, college students, and adults). More than 100 empirical studies document that captioning a video improves comprehension of, attention to, and memory for the video. Captions are particularly beneficial for persons watching videos in their non-native language, for children and adults learning to read, and for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

As a Deaf person growing up in the 80s and 90s, I remember going to the movie theatres with my hearing friends and relying on them to pass on the info to me. Or lipreading which was not always possible especially in action or comedy movies. Watching my first Open Captioned movie in Rochester, NY was a heaven-sent gift. Please make this gift possible for Maryland's Deaf/HH residents as well!

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Norma Moran viva2nym@gmail.com

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Cesar Morata, and I am Deaf. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely, Cesar Morata roturo75@gmail.com

Judicial Proceedings Committee 2 East Miller Senate Office Building State Capitol Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Rhea Morgenstern, and I am Hearing. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill,** sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

I teach at Gallaudet University and have many Deaf and hard of hearing friends. I personally use captions for movies and TV at home. Open captions wild make a huge difference for all of us!

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Rhea Morgenstern rhea.morgenstern@gallaudet.edu

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Monica Morley, and I am Deaf. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill,** sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Having Open Captions at the movies makes my life easier and enjoyable to watch the movies.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Monica Morley monicagmorley@gmail.com

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Lydia Moro, and I am Hearing. I live in Harford County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely, Lydia Moro lydiamoro3@gmail.com

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Shannon Morrison, and I am Hearing. I live in Baltimore City.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely, Shannon Morrison president@pc-rid.org

Judicial Proceedings Committee 2 East Miller Senate Office Building State Capitol Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is La Guettler, and I am Deaf. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

I have close friends who are hearing impaired. While there are some accommodations afforded to hearing impaired persons, enjoying a movie theater experience on the spur of the moment is not one of them.

Being able to enjoy a film for them takes much forethought and planning. A theater and film title has to be reserved in advance, other hearing impaired people have to be notified/coordinated, and the screening is usually done before noon so as not to disrupt the theater's advertised screening schedule.

I believe that hearing impaired people should have the freedom and flexibility to enjoy a movie theater experience like non-hearing impaired people. Passing this legislation would go a long way toward being more inclusive.

Thank you for your consideration.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely, Laura Moyer liuiza@aol.com

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Alicia Mullins, and I am Deaf. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill,** sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

I have a gift card to the movie theater on route 40 but have not used it yet. What's holding me back is that open captioned movies are on during the hours I work. Many times a particular movie is only Open Captioning for one day. I would be more than happy to see a movie if there was a variety of times a movie is Open Captioning.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Alicia Mullins mullins8520@comcast.net

Judicial Proceedings Committee 2 East Miller Senate Office Building State Capitol Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Lawrence Musa, and I am Deaf. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill,** sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Musa lawrence.musa@gallaudet.edu

Judicial Proceedings Committee 2 East Miller Senate Office Building State Capitol Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Alyssa Myers and I am Deaf. I live in Anne Arundel County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill,** sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Alyssa Myers Alyssamyers521@gmail.com

Judicial Proceedings Committee 2 East Miller Senate Office Building State Capitol Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Mark J. Myers, and I am Deaf. I live in Anne Arundel County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill,** sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Mark J. Myers mjmmyers2012@gmail.com

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Nat, and I am Deaf. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill,** sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

My wife and our three kids are all Deaf. We immensely enjoy going to theaters to see films with open captions. Our biggest issue essentially is the inability to go see any movie at any time with open captions. We instead have to rely on theaters who set open captions by day, and we usually have to work around our schedule to be able to attend.

Although there's always the opportunity to use open caption devices, they are often clunky, unreliable and detract from the overall experience. Having words on the screen is immensely beneficial and hearing people can also benefit if they miss dialogue or particular sounds due to excessive movie noise.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Nat bladezone@gmail.com

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Mary O'Hara, and I am Deaf. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely, Mary O'Hara failte.molly@gmail.com

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Molly O'Hara, and I am Deaf. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Would like a fair chance to enjoy movies like all others folks.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely, Molly O'Hara failte.molly@gmail.com

Judicial Proceedings Committee 2 East Miller Senate Office Building State Capitol Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Oghenerukevwe-Ogra, and I am Hard of Hearing. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill,** sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

I would really like to have open captioning with accessibility everywhere I go.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Oghenerukevwe-Ogra oghenerukevwe-ogra@pgcps.org

Judicial Proceedings Committee 2 East Miller Senate Office Building State Capitol Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Gina A. Oliva and I am Hard of Hearing. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Gina A. Oliva Gina.oliva09@gmail.com

Judicial Proceedings Committee 2 East Miller Senate Office Building State Capitol Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is John Olumoya and I am Deaf. I live in Anne Arundel County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill,** sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

I do not wish to share public "googles" in theaters to view "closed captioning". Please give us a healthy option to view captions as open captions without touching shared viewing equipment which are not being sanitized for public use.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

John Olumoya John.olumoya@gmail.com

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Jill Owens Brick, and I am Deaf. I live in Baltimore County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely, Jill Owens Brick jillaowens@gmail.com

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Rita Ownes, and I am Deaf. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill,** sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

I'd like to attend any movie with open captions in my neighborhood anytime when it is available instead of picking one of few captioned movies in further areas.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Rita Owens nkowens@gmail.com

Judicial Proceedings Committee 2 East Miller Senate Office Building State Capitol Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Andrea Haas Panella and I am Deaf. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Andrea Haas Panella amhpanella@gmail.com