

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is David Chidlow, and I am Deaf. I live in Anne Arundel County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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 of 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.

It helps me to understand the movie with open captions and enjoy time with both hearing and deaf people in movie theaters. It helps the movie business in good terms.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

David Chidlow  
chidcabe@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Nora Chidlow, and I am Deaf. I live in Anne Arundel County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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 HB 426.

Sincerely,

Nora Chidlow  
chidlownlm@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Bradley Christlieb and I am Deaf. I live in Calvert County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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, the 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 HB 426.

Sincerely,

Bradley Christlieb  
Bradleychristlieb@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Hannah Churn and I am Hearing. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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, the same as other people who go to the movie.

I've heard from members of the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community that the glasses movie theaters provide are a hit-and-miss. It seems like such a simple solution to just allow a set amount of showing with captions to be consistently inclusive for all.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Hannah Churn  
hebenbow@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Cynthia Cieslik, and I am Hard of Hearing. I live in Anne Arundel County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

These glasses enable you to read the captions in a display at the bottom of the glasses. You wear the box around your neck. Yes, these are incredibly uncomfortable, but beyond that, they don't work very well. My sister and her husband needed to try three different devices before finding one that worked. I know that one of the complaints that theater owners put forward is that people who don't need captions don't want to attend a movie with open captions. As a person who almost always has captions on my TV. I doubt this. If you don't need captions, they are easy to ignore, and if your hearing loss is minor, they are a helpful tool..

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Cieslik  
cccieslik@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Desiree Cipriano and I am Deaf. I live in Carroll County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Desiree Cipriano  
dcipriano127@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Jennifer Clark and I am Deaf. I live in Washington County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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, the same as other people who go to the movie.

Open captioning Movies is critical for the Deaf community. We are just like other hearing moviegoers. The glasses with captions are not reliable or comfortable. A captioned stand in cup holder is the worst.. it's either not reliable to stay in one place or the battery died in the middle of the movie or there are wrong captions (for different movies) etc. I have asked all of my hearing peers if OC is a distraction.. they said no and the majority of them prefer subtitles.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Clark  
buzzmamaof3@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Melissa Clark and I am Hearing. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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 HB 426.

Sincerely,

Melissa Clark  
Miska8660@gmail.com



February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Sarah Clark, and I am Hearing. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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 frequently go to movies with a hard-of-hearing friend and most of the time the assistive devices don't work. Also, my hearing is good but sometimes I miss dialogue because of loud background music, heavy accents, or general garbling. Open Captioning is the best answer to these problems.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Sarah Clark  
rupertandsarah@yahoo.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Sharon Clark and I am Hearing. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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 HB 426.

Sincerely,

Sharon Clark  
sharon.lynn65@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Britney Clause and I am Hearing. I live in Anne Arundel County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

While I do not have any hearing impairments, accessibility for all is something I support and fight for quite frequently. The ability to have captions allows everyone to enjoy a film or TV show to its fullest extent. Regardless of ability to hear, a majority of people mishear lines from movies, or completely miss parts of dialog because the audio is either too loud, low, or the actor's delivery is inconsistent. A common complaint of movie theaters is that it's just too easy to miss key details because of the audio, so with this improvement, could there also be an improvement in movie theater attendance? Open captions will undoubtedly impact the moviegoer experience in a positive and uplifting way.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Britney Clause  
bclause18@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Alix Clise and I am a person with a neurodivergent, auditory processing disorder. I live in Carroll County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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, the 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 HB 426.

Sincerely,

Alix Clise  
alixclise@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Marissa Clopper and I am Deaf. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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 HB 426.

Sincerely,

Marissa Clopper  
Marissa.clopper@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Rekha Coe, and I am Hearing.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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 HB 426.

Sincerely,

Rekah Coe  
lucy\_shelf@hotmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Jay Cohen, and I am Hard of Hearing.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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 am a lifelong lover of movies. Now in my senior years, I no longer can fully enjoy movies without captioning. The available devices and systems leave too much to be desired. These are often uncomfortable or awkward to use. The best option is Open Captioning.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Jay Cohen  
mousecall1@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Joan Cohen, and I am Hearing.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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 husband and I seek out open captioned movies and theater. My husband has a hearing loss and benefits greatly from the captioning. I also benefit as I look at the captioning when I miss dialogue. Open captioning is much more comfortable than using the equipment that some movie theaters offer, which is unreliable or unavailable.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Joan Cohen  
joanlee\_60@yahoo.com



February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Kenya Colbert, and I am Hearing. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

Processing auditory information is my job as a sign language interpreter but when I want to go to the movies with my family and friends, watching movies with open captions has become a necessity for me and my family/friends. With the limited options in movie theaters I'm not able to go to the movies with my deaf/hard of hearing friends. Even if I attempt to go with just my family, it becomes exhausting having to process the information I hear and see because I realize the background noise takes over a lot of dialogue and I miss important information pertaining to the movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Kenya Colbert  
kenyacolbert3@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Khera Colbert, and I am Hearing. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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 am a hearing person that uses open captioning to enjoy TV and Movies. I cannot enjoy going to the theater unless there are open captions. There is a lot of information that is missed with background noise, movie scores, and mumbling.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on Hb 426.

Sincerely,

Khera Colbert  
khera.colbert@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Ann Cole, and I am Deaf. I live in Anne Arundel County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

Closed caption device has caused me a headache and difficulty reading the small words.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Ann Cole  
anncole47@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Samuel Cole, and I am Hard of Hearing. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

One time I went to the movies and I was watching Black Adam. I couldn't quite catch everything the characters were saying. I kept asking my dad what the characters were saying. Open Captioning would be helpful!.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Samuel Cole  
samuel-cole@pgcps.org

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Steven Cole, and I am Deaf. I live in Anne Arundel County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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 support having open captions because of headaches when I used glass for closed captions and was not comfortable reading.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Steven Cole  
smcole52@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Erin Coleman, and I am Hard of Hearing.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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 HB 426.

Sincerely,

Erin Coleman  
erincoleman105@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Betty Colonomos, and I am Hard of Hearing. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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 always watch television with captions. I need that support when the audio is unclear. I also want to go to the movies with my Deaf friends but I cannot because they are not accessible. Hearing people would benefit from seeing written English too.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Betty Colonomos  
visitbmc@verizon.net

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Marie Combs, and I am a person with a neurodivergent, auditory processing disorder.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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 HB 426.

Sincerely,

Marie Combs  
tajhy154@gmail.com



February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Megan Conaghan and I am Deaf. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Megan Conaghan  
mjconaghan8@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Casandra Conde and I am Deaf. I live in Washington County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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 of the video. Captions are particularly beneficial for persons watching videos in their non-native language, children and adults learning to read, and 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, the 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 HB 426.

Sincerely,

Casandra Conde  
Ganikocas@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

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

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

My husband, who is also Deaf, and I have given up on going to movies because rear-window captioning and the glasses are so unreliable they've made every single experience unpleasant and a waste of our time. We have had to go to theaters twice or three times to just be able to see one movie. We don't bother unless we see that it's open-captioned, then we can have confidence we won't miss the first 20 minutes due to technological difficulties and then decide to take vouchers and come back another time because of having missed the first 20 minutes. I have a whole stack of vouchers at this point that I won't use unless it's on an OC movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Tara Congdon  
tschupner@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Ann Conroy and I am Hard of Hearing. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Ann Conroy  
aconro@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

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

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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 of the video. Captions are particularly beneficial for persons watching videos in their non-native language, children and adults learning to read, and 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, the 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 92.

Sincerely,

Gina Conyers  
Gbc7375@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Sheryl Cooper, and I am Hearing. I live in Baltimore County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

My husband is hard of hearing and has a lot of trouble hearing in movie theaters. At home, we always watch with captions, and we rarely go to theaters. If theaters had captioning, we would go back!

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Sheryl Cooper  
fingerworks1@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Noelle Corrado, and I am Hearing. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Noelle Corrado  
ncorrado1226@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Kathy Cortopassi, and I am Hearing. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

I provide closed captioning services. I worked with people with hearing loss for 30 years. I heard their stories. Open Captioned movies also helps those for whom English is not their primary language. It helps those with ADHD or autism focus on the spoken word. It distracts them to help calm themselves. Open Captioning - captioning itself in all settings - serves many purposes.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Kathy Cortopassi  
kathycortopassi@gmail.com



February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Ruth Cote, and I am Hard of Hearing. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

Even with a cochlear hearing aid/processor, I find it difficult to understand all the words in a movie at the movie theater. I use captioning on my TV all the time and it is more enjoyable rather than struggling to understand the words. My husband, who is hearing, appreciates the captioning too.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Ruth Cote  
racote43@comcast.net

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Ashley Cottom, and I am Hard of Hearing. I live in Howard County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Ashley Cottom  
ashley.cottom@yahoo.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Donald Craig, and I am Deaf. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Donald Craig  
donsail68@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

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

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Kim Craig  
kimmariee@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Johnthan Croney, and I am Deaf. I live in Howard County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

When I watch movies without open captions, I have to use the devices and I miss the action on the screen. It is not easy to toggle back-and-forth between the captioning and the movie screen. Using the devices they provide is a pain because you have to go to customer service to sign them out and then you have to sign them back in. I support the bill to add open caption to ALL movies more than one, at least a few times a week per movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Johnathan Croney  
jjcroney@icloud.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Theresa Croney and I am Hearing. I live in Howard County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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 of the video. Captions are particularly beneficial for persons watching videos in their non-native language, children and adults learning to read, and 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.

My husband is Deaf, I am hearing and a sign language interpreter. One of our favorite things to do is go to the movies. I would interpret for him, but as you can imagine, sometimes that was an overwhelming task doing that on my own for 2 to 3 hours. After the theaters implemented captioning machines, we were so excited. But that excitement quickly waned when we realized that they were often broken, not programmed correctly, the battery would sometimes die mid-movie, and while the screen you had to look through was miniature, the device itself was bulky heavy metal so it was uncomfortable to carry, especially when carrying drinks & popcorn. Not to mention the fact that we would get stares and looks from people. 9 times out of 10, we found ourselves asking for a refund. This goes against the litmus test for equal access. Theaters started offering a few open-caption movies, and we were hooked. My husband can finally watch a movie hands-free, and not have to rely on me to interpret or look through a miniature device. Now the only thing that needs to improve is the amount of access.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Theresa Croney  
Croney143@yahoo.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Tade Cross, and I am Deaf. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

I've had trouble getting the armrest rear window devices and the glasses to work. I'd like to be able to stop complaining to the management and being given free passes to future movies. I'd like to go to the movies - get a ticket and go straight to a seat and watch without a hassle.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Tade Cross  
tadecross@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Amy Crumrine, and I am Deaf. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

When my husband and I had glasses often the battery would die and I would have to leave the movie to discuss with the manager to get new ones. By the time I got back to the movie, I missed a good chunk of what happened. It's always disappointing when this happens.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Amy Crumrine  
amycrumrine72@gmail.com



February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Roy Crumrine, and I am Deaf. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

For a long time, many families with at least one deaf member in the family do not want to attend movies without open caption films because of boredom during 2 hours to 3 hour long movies. I remember during my childhood years during the 80's when StarWars, ET, Karate Kid, etc were playing at the movie theater and I would ask my parents to tell me what was going on. My parents will tell me the main parts during the movie and I realize that I missed too much of the movie. I stopped going to the movies because of the lack of captions. I enjoyed watching captioned movies when renting VHS tapes from Erol's (Blockbusters or similar).

If you add open captions to the film, then everyone in the family will receive the exact same movie scenes experience and joy as everyone else. In addition, a deaf member in the family can discuss all of the movie's scenes with a hearing member of the family equally.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Roy Crumrine  
roycrumrine72@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

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

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Hannahlyn Cudal  
hannahlyn-cudal@pgcps.org

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Kyla Cunningham and I am Hearing, a person with a neurodivergent, auditory processing disorder, or similar medical condition. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Kyla Cunningham  
kyla.cunningham.kc@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Joe Dalaker and I am Hearing. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

This bill is an important step toward making movie theaters in Maryland truly inclusive of the communities who need captioning--the physically deaf and the Deaf Community, the hard-of-hearing, and persons with other differences around language and hearing. Currently, while access may technically be available in many movie theaters, the accommodations are not consistent. The bill would make the accommodations more consistent.

The following experiences at movie theaters of one of Cheverly's residents, who is deaf, illustrates the problems that the bill will help to rectify:

Captioning equipment not being maintained. The resident has attended movies that were advertised as being closed-captioned, at movie theaters that provided captioning equipment. On multiple occasions, at different theaters, she had borrowed the captioning equipment only to discover it was not properly maintained (e.g., battery not charged) and as a result would not provide captions for the movie. Not every theater employee necessarily knows how to maintain the equipment, and those who do (typically a manager) are not always immediately available to address problems like this.

Pursuant to this problem, I emphasize that poorly-maintained captioning equipment does not provide equal access. Because movie trailers and advertisements shown before the start of the main feature frequently are not captioned, the Cheverly resident has on multiple occasions and at multiple theaters only discovered the equipment malfunction after the movie started. Getting the problem fixed required her to go back to the theater's service desk and ask for assistance from a staff member who was not immediately available, and therefore she missed the plot expositions

of the films she attended. Missing that information only reinforced the usual non inclusive dynamics she experiences typically--having to piece information together, with bits of information missing, because communication in the wider community assumes all parties are hearing.

Rarity of open-captioned movie viewings. Attending the movies is a social activity. The movie theater is a place where friends go to connect and where couples go on dates. When closed-captioning equipment malfunctions, it takes away from the shared experience of watching the movie -- particularly when, as is often the case, only one person in a party attending the movie needs the captioning. Open captioning would put everyone on an even footing, and not mark those who need the captioning as "other." Currently, open-captioned movies are rare, both geographically (only some theaters have open captioning) and in terms of content (usually only non-English-language films have subtitles).

Given her repeated experiences with malfunctioning captioning equipment, the Cheverly resident has attempted to go to the movies with friends and loved ones for open captioned viewings. To do so she either had to go to Columbia Maryland (a 40-minute drive each way from Cheverly) for specific viewings, or see a foreign-language film closer by (which provided English subtitles for spoken dialogue). Therefore, her experiences of going to the movies on a date or with a group of friends usually required her to rely on closed-captioning equipment, as opposed to an unencumbered viewing of an open-captioned film.

I want to point out that when hearing people want to see a film in a language other than English, they usually expect there to be subtitles. Providing open captioning for each film multiple times a week, at popular movie-viewing times, shows respect for those who need captioning for English-language films; failing to do so does not.

For these reasons above, I urge you to pass the act. It would reduce needless frustration and send a message that everyone matters, regardless of ability.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Joe Dalaker

Joseph.Dalaker@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Renee Damskey, and I am Hearing. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Renee Damskey  
pinkpointer@aol.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Rikki Daniels and I am Hearing, a person with a neurodivergent, auditory processing disorder. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Rikki Daniels  
rellingsworth@msn.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Carmen Danley and I am a person with neurodivergent, auditory processing disorder.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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 can access the movie without using devices or other methods, the 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 HB 426.

Sincerely,

Carmen Danley  
Danley.carmen@gmail.com



February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Amy Dauphin, and I am Hard of Hearing. I live in Queen Anne's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

It would be a dream to go to the movie theaters at normal natural times to hang with my two hearing children (both ages 11 and 14) and watch new upcoming movies. Oftentimes, they begged to see newly released movies, and they end up going with their hearing father on their own.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Amy Dauphin  
amydauphin@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Daniel Davidson, and I am Hard of Hearing. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 426.

Sincerely,

Daniel Davidson  
danyld21@gmail.com