

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Sophia Barr, and I am Deaf.

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,

Sophia Barr  
barrs0776@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Anthony Barraza, 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.

I have family members who are Deaf, and we are unable to go to a movie together as a family to watch open captioned movies. This bill would bring our family together so that we all would have access as we should in this day, and age.

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

Sincerely,

Anthony Barraza  
me@tonybarraza.net

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Brian Barron, 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,

Brian Barron  
bjbarron13@aol.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Sarah Bathon 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, 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,

Sarah Bathon  
sarahbathon@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Gabrielle Beaumont 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 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.

My daughter is Deaf and I would love the opportunity to go to movies in the theater with her. It would be helpful if they weren't only shown in the middle of the week during school hours or the last show of the evening.

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

Sincerely,

Gabrielle Beaumont  
Ghgbeaumont@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee::

My name is Susan Beaver and I am Hearing. I live in Wicomico 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,

Susan Beaver  
susanbeaver155@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Julia E. Becker, 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 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 want to watch a great movie with open captioning, I have to travel to Washington, DC or Fredrick, MD. Movie closer to my home is my wish.

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

Sincerely,

Julia E. Becker  
jebecker54@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Robert Becker, and I am Deaf. I live in Wicomico 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,

Robert Becker  
buckingham@dila.org



February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is JB Begue, and I am Deaf. I live in Baltimore City.

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 prefer to have open captions on the movie screen so I can enjoy the “theater” vibe with other people. If there is no open caption, then I have no choice but carry the special device and sit in the cup holder which is often problematic.

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

Sincerely,

JB Begue  
jsbeon7@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Maureen Behrens, 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,

Maureen Behrens  
aslnature64@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Suzi Behun, 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.

Open captioning is the best access for everyone, especially young kids to read open captioning and help young kids to improve their language/English. Open captioning is easy to read on the movie than other devices

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

Sincerely,

Suzi Behun  
suzi@behun.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Nan Belice and I am Hard of 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,

Nan Belice  
mysaviorjesus@yahoo.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Jeffrey Bell 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.

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

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Bell  
jefmax57@aol.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Jennifer Bellemore 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,

Jennifer Bellemore  
jennifer.bellemore@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Paula Belletiere, 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.

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

Sincerely,

Paula Belletiere  
pbelletiere@cruiseplanners.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Anthony Benavente Sanchez, 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.

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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 HB426.

Sincerely,

Anthony Benavente Sanchez  
a-benaventesanchez@pgcps.org



February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Elizabeth Benevides, and I am a person with a neurodivergent, auditory processing disorder. 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.

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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.

Open-captioning not only supports people who are deaf or hard of hearing, but also people for whom English is not a primary language, for those with processing disorders, and for those of us who simply prefer to read the dialogue so as not to miss anything! The Howard County Autism Society brought "sensory friendly movies" to AMC Theaters more than a decade ago--this made the theaters accessible to many people for whom the movie theater was overstimulating. Similarly, this legislation supports a basic need--reading words for those who need written words rather than spoken words. Please vote in favor of this budget-neutral legislation. Movie producers already add the open-captions. Movie theaters should be required to provide them to customers in order to level the playing field and make the movies one more place that is equitable and accessible.

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

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Benevides  
elizabethbenevides1@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Adrienne Benjamin 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 Bhandaris. 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,

Adrienne Benjamin  
[Adrienne.joy25@gmail.com](mailto:Adrienne.joy25@gmail.com)

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Karen Bennett, and I am Hearing. I live in Allegany 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,

Karen Bennett  
bennett1973@atlanticbb.net

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Holly Bentz, and I am a person with a neurodivergent, auditory processing disorder, or similar medical condition. 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.

Captions contribute to creating a more inclusive & accessible environment for a wide range of people.

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

Sincerely,

Holly Bentz  
chinadoll009@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Tiasha Bera 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.

I am tired of the whole shenanigans of having odd times for open caption movies. I want to see the movies with my husband during a date night. But of course it is not available so this needs to CHANGE.

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

Sincerely,

Tiasha Bera  
deafrulers@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Daniel Berke and I am Deaf.

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,

Daniel Berke  
Dazb1988@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Jamie Berke, and I am Deaf.

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,

Jamie Berke  
rangerfan\_us@yahoo.com

February 8, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Jason Bermudez, 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.

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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 92.

Sincerely,

Jason Bermudez  
jason-bermudez@pgcps.org



February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Angelika Berry 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.

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

Sincerely,

Angelika Berry  
A.l.berry05@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is John Berry, and I am Hard of Hearing. I live in Baltimore City.

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,

John Berry  
jpberryjr@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Shawn Berry, 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.

More open caption movies are needed for me and my other hard of hearing friends living here in Leisure World in Montgomery County, Maryland.

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

Sincerely,

Shawn Berry  
shawn.yfu.mom@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Wilma Berry, 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.

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 SB 92.

Sincerely,

Wilma Berry  
billieberry59@outlook.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Dori Betjemann 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 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.

We enjoy going to movies with our Deaf family members and Deaf friends. It is so much more enjoyable if the movie is open-captioned. The closed-captioned devices where the captions are displayed on a device attached to the seat of each user are more difficult to calibrate and read. These devices are often not working and theater employees do not know how to fix them so almost always the first 30 minutes of a movie are spent, with someone running back and forth to the device station to get the equipment functioning. Open captions avoid all of these issues and are also welcomed by many hearing people, especially older or those who are learning English as a second language.

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

Sincerely,

Dori Betjemann  
Dbetjemann@peak.org

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Brenda Bianchi, 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.

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,

Brenda Bianchi  
chunkywheeler@aol.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is James Biesel, 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.

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

Sincerely,

James Biesel  
jamesbiesel@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Cheryl Birnbaum, and I am Deaf. I live in Allegany 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 SB 92.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Birnbaum  
clhbrivolis@gmail.com



February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Alice Bishop, and I am a person learning English as a second language. 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 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,

Alice Bishop  
shuiqiuwen@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Daniel Bitzel, and I am Deaf. 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.

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

Sincerely,

Daniel Bitzel  
daniel.p.bitzel@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Emma Bixler, and I am a person with a neurodivergent, auditory processing disorder, or similar medical condition. I live in Baltimore City.

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 am a hearing Dyslexic Marylander who connected with the Deaf community in high school and subsequently found the access that watching tv, movies or shows with captions provides. I now personally watch all my media using captions whether it's on social media, YouTube or a TV app. The way my brain processes spoken language makes it difficult to fully hear or absorb what is being said on the screen. Without captions I'm always turning to the person next me asking what I missed which is not an enjoyable experience for anyone and therefore I don't go to the movie theaters. Providing captions more consistently at movie theaters would allow me and my communities to partake in art and entertainment at local businesses supporting the greater Maryland economy and better connecting us with our neighbors and society by accessing a shared experience.

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

Sincerely,

Emma Bixler  
ejbixler@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Daniella Blake-Aranbayeva 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 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.

As a Child of Deaf Adults (CODA), witnessing the lack of access for my parents and the general Deaf and Hard of Hearing community has been disheartening. Walking into a movie theater knowing that it may take 30 minutes to request a captioning device, waiting for it to be found buried in a box demonstrates the lack of preparedness. At times, I have found that even theater employees are unaware of how the devices operate or do not realize that they need to be charged/batteries replaced to work. This lack of accessibility has been an ongoing concern. It has deterred my family, among others, from having family nights at the movie theater and contributing to the economy in this way. When we do choose to attend a movie theater, it takes a while to obtain a captioning device. I have found myself interpreting the movie instead of watching it as a paying attendee because I do not want my parents to feel left out or their needs less than. The MD Open Captioning Movies Bill will reverse these sentiments and alleviate the burden placed on the Deaf community, CODAs, and theater employees.

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

Sincerely,

Daniella Blake-Aranbayeva  
daniella.blakearanbayeva@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Sean Blake and I am Deaf. I live in Baltimore County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 426 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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.

It is frustrating to use outdated devices such as close-captioned eyeglasses and clamp-mount close-captioned devices. These are uncomfortable to wear and distracting to the viewers when it is being set up in the theater.

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

Sincerely,

Sean Blake  
mdsblake@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Karen Blanchard, 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.

This will benefit to all people of all ages.

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

Sincerely,

Karen Blanchard  
seadog2847@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Jeffrey Blanco, 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.

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

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Blanco  
jblanco519@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Marie Blanco, 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.

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

Sincerely,

Marie Blanco  
marie.rose.harrison@gmail.com



February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Jillian Bleggi, and I am a person with a neurodivergent, auditory processing disorder, or similar medical condition. 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,

Jillian Bleggi  
jillian.bleggi@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Jason Bloom, and I am Deaf. 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.

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,

Jason Bloom  
jbloom24@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Theresa Blume, and I am Hearing, a person with a neurodivergent, auditory processing disorder, or similar medical condition. I live in Allegany 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.

Captions would be most appreciated for those who cannot hear or hear well to understand what they are seeing on the screen they are watching. This would enable the watcher to fully comprehend the scope of the movie or show.

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

Sincerely,

Theresa Blume  
blume\_theresa@yahoo.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Steve Blumstein, 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,

Steve Blumstein  
sdblumstein@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Lauren Blundin 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,

Lauren Blundin  
Laurenblundin@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Beverly Boateng, 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,

Beverly Boateng  
akwaaba58@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Patrick Bolingbroke, and I am Deaf. I live in Wicomico 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,

Patrick Bolingbroke  
buckingham@dila.org

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Nicole Booz and I am Deaf.

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 son was born with unilateral hearing loss that will affect him his entire life. Movie open captions will make films so much more accessible to people with hearing loss. Storytellers and movie theaters are missing out on huge audiences (and money) by not making this small accommodation and change. As I have gotten older, I also prefer captions on as it is so easy to miss parts of the story being told. Thank you for reading and I hope this bill passes.

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

Sincerely,

Nicole Booz  
enicolebooz@gmail.com



February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Amy Bopp, and I am Deaf. I live in Baltimore City.

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,

Amy Bopp  
bopp56@gmail.com

February 6, 2024

Economic Matters Committee  
State Capitol  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is George Bourozikas, and I am Hearing. I live in Baltimore City.

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,

George Bourozikas  
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