

Musicians' Association of Metropolitan Baltimore

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Local 40-543
American Federation of Musicians
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Michael Decker
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February 24, 2020

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1192
Income Tax – Theatrical Production Tax Credit
February 25, 2020

TO: Hon. Anne R. Kaiser, Chair, and members of the House Ways and Means Committee

FROM: Mary C. Plaine, Secretary-Treasurer, The Musicians' Association of Metropolitan Baltimore, Local 40-543, American Federation of Musicians (AFM)

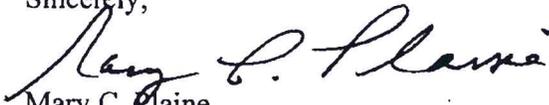
The Musicians' Association of Metropolitan Baltimore supports HB 1192 and asks that the House Ways and Means Committee vote to support it and send it on to the full chamber for passage.

Local 40-543's musicians who perform for the Broadway Across America musical theatre productions at The Hippodrome Theatre at The France-Merrick Performing Arts Center in Baltimore have seen their employment drop over the years, and there is no work for our musicians at the Hippodrome in the summer months. HB 1192 will have a positive impact not only on the lives of our members, but also create more work for our brothers and sisters who are members of IATSE Local 19.

Theatrical production tax credits will allow the Hippodrome to contribute even more positively than it already does to the city of Baltimore and its surrounding communities. HB 1192 will foster an environment that will encourage theatrical producers to bring in shows not just for a week or two of polished performances during the winter season but for weeks of rehearsals during the summer. HB 1192 will not only encourage more jobs and dollars, it will also help make Baltimore a destination city for creative artists and their backers, rather than just a stop on a theatrical tour.

Again, Local 40-543 urges members of the House Ways and Means Committee to vote **FOR** HB 1192.

Sincerely,


Mary C. Plaine
Secretary-Treasurer

Support Live Music