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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB323/HB310

Maryland Arts and Culture Capital Grant Program

Thank you for your consideration of SB323/HB310. This legislation creates the Maryland Arts and Culture Capital Grant Program, a new capital grant fund administered by the Maryland State Arts Council. The Program provides critical capital investment for the Maryland arts sector through a competitive grant program for mid-size to small institutions open for arts organizations supported through the Maryland State Arts Council.

At the Queen Anne's County Arts Council/Centre for the Arts, we support this bill because arts organizations come in all sizes in the state of Maryland which is what it takes to reach all of our communities. In Queen Anne's County, we continue to provide art services and programs in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our county is rural and some people live in the far corners, yet we continue to reach most of our citizens as often as possible through our efforts and the efforts of the smaller organizations that we support. In the coming year, mor than ever, we need additional support to keep our doors open and the people's services functioning.

For these reasons, I ask for a FAVORABLE REPORT on SB323/HB310.

Sincerely,

Rick Strittmater
Executive Director
Queen Anne's County Centre for the Arts
queenannescountyarts.com
443 904 0646 (M)
qacartsdirector@gmail.com

www.queenannescountyarts.com

The Queen Anne's County Arts Council is a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization committed to promoting, expanding, and sustaining the arts.