

January 22, 2021

Senate Finance Committee:

Motor House, an organization in the Station North Arts District, supports Senate Bill 256 Arts and Entertainment Districts – Artistic Work and Arts and Entertainment Enterprise - Definitions.

Motor House is an arts hub that champions the bold and experimental work of emerging artists in Baltimore. We work directly with the artists and consumers of art to foster a creative ecosystem that supports our community's cultural and economic environment.

Because of our location in the Station North Arts District, Motor House has been able to make relationships with a number of other organizations, individual artists, as well as neighborhood businesses. The existence of this arts district facilitates the collaborative spirit of each organization or artist, and multiplies our individual impact. We have been able to collaborate with the District on festivals like the Asia North Festival for the past few years. Here, we have celebrated the Asian population that is a part of the neighborhood's spine. We work with the Korean restaurants in the area and cultural groups like Asian Arts and Culture Center at Towson University among dozens of others.

The work that Motor House does includes a diverse array of activities. Under this expanded definition of **Artistic Work** and **Arts and Entertainment Enterprise**, many of our partners will be able to benefit in ways in which they have previously been excluded. The fashion designers in our studios who create unique, one-of-a-kind pieces that function as both installation work as well as wearable garments would now be able to benefit. Opportunities like this bring more activation, economic activity, tourism, and interest in our district.

Thank you,

Camille Kashaka  
Executive Director  
Motor House