



DATE: January 18, 2020 **COMMITTEE:** Senate Finance
BILL NO: Senate Bill 256
BILL TITLE: Arts and Entertainment Districts – Artistic Work and Arts and Entertainment Enterprise - Definitions
POSITION: Support

Dear Senate Finance Committee Members,

The Annapolis Arts District supports Senate Bill 256 Arts and Entertainment Districts — Artistic Work and Arts and Entertainment Enterprise - Definitions.

We have worked with the Maryland State Arts Council and other arts districts around the state to give input on clarifying the definitions of artistic work and activities of an arts and entertainment enterprise.

Updating the definitions of artistic works and arts and entertainment enterprises will make it easier to attract and retain artists and arts organizations in the 29 arts districts around the state, including the Annapolis Arts District.

It will also resolve questions frequently asked by local artists and arts organizations if they qualify for tax credit incentives the State and local governments provide to artists within the bounds of state authorized arts districts.

This past year has been especially hard on the arts community. Passing this SB256 will be one step you can take to making a brighter future for the local arts community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erik Evans". The signature is fluid and cursive, extending to the right.

Erik Evans
Executive Director
Annapolis Arts District