

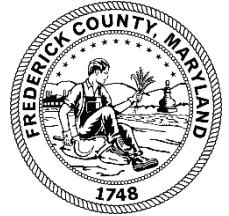


**FREDERICK COUNTY COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES**

**Citizens Services Division**

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301-600-1110

TTY: Use Maryland Relay 711  
www.frederickcountymd.gov/fccod



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The Frederick County Commission on Disabilities meets virtually on the second Monday of each month except December, at 6:00 p.m. The public is invited to observe the meetings on the Commission's Facebook page:  
[www.Facebook.com/FrederickCOD](http://www.Facebook.com/FrederickCOD)

To: Senate Judiciary Committee

Re: HB 1238 - Places of Public Accommodation - Motion Picture Houses - Captioning

Recommendation: Position letter from Frederick County Commission on Disabilities to Support HB 1238

Hearing date: April 5, 2022 at 1:00 pm – Senate Judiciary Committee

Greetings,

The Frederick County Commission on Disabilities (COD) was created as part of the Frederick County government in 1994. Since that time, it has reviewed programs and services for people with disabilities, identified barriers to programs and services available to people with disabilities, recommended ways to overcome those barriers, and made recommendations regarding existing and proposed legislation pertaining to people with disabilities.

We were recently contacted by Tina Joyner, who is a Vice-President of Maryland Association of the Deaf (MDAD). Their mission is to preserve, protect, and promote the civil, human, and linguistic rights of Deaf, hard of hearing, and deafblind individuals in the state of Maryland. Ms. Joyner made us aware of HB 1238. The bill is in the Senate within the Judiciary Committee, which will have a hearing on it on April 5, 2022, at 1 p.m.

The members of the COD strongly support HB 1238 – Open Captioning at Movie Theatres, which Delegate Bhandari sponsors for three different county organizations, which are Baltimore City Association of the Deaf (BCAD), Howard County Association of the Deaf (HCAD) and Prince George County Association of the Deaf (PGCAD). This bill ensures that movie theatres provide two days of the week with all the movies being open captioning.

We urge you to support and vote to pass HB 1238.

Karen Duffy  
Chair

**Our Mission:**

**To inform, educate and elevate “Disability Awareness” among people with disabilities and the community; and to promote an inclusive environment for all in our county.**