

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Jason Begue and I am Deaf. I live in Baltimore City.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 264 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari, Delegate Andre Johnson Jr., and Delegate Steve Johnson. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

Captioning, also known as same-language subtitles, benefits everyone who watches videos (children, adolescents, college students, and adults). More than 100 empirical studies document that captioning a video improves comprehension of, attention to, and memory for the video. Captions are particularly beneficial for persons watching videos in their non-native language, for children and adults learning to read, and for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

I do not have same access what hearing people access: enjoy watch the movie without any additional device such as put screen in the cup holder and/or wear uncomfortable glasses to read the movable caption.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 264.

Sincerely,

Jason Begue
Jsbeon7@gmail.com

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

February 8, 2023

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Maureen Behrns and I am Deaf. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 264 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari, Delegate Andre Johnson Jr., and Delegate Steve Johnson. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 264.

Sincerely,

Maureen Behrns
aslnatutr64@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Suzi Behun, and I am Deaf. I live in Howard County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 264 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari, Delegate Andre Johnson Jr., and Delegate Steve Johnson. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Open Captioning is great on the screen than wearing heavy caption glasses. Open Captioning is great for everyone to read the captions. It is great for any age to read the captions and helps them improve better in English.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 264.

Sincerely,

Suzi Behun
suzi@behun.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Anthony Benavente and I am Deaf. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 264 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari, Delegate Andre Johnson Jr., and Delegate Steve Johnson. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 264.

Sincerely,

Anthony Benavente
a-benaventesanchez@pgcps.org

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Elizabeth Benevides and I am Hearing. I live in Howard County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 264 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari, Delegate Andre Johnson Jr., and Delegate Steve Johnson. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

As a parent and advocate in the autism community, as well as a member of several commissions and workgroups related to disabilities, I fully support this proposed legislation. More than a dozen years ago, the Howard County Autism Society brought sensory-friendly movie events to AMC Columbia. This grew nationally at AMC Theatres whereby once a month, a sensory-friendly showing of a movie is offered. Lights are kept dim, sound is kept low, people are invited to move around if needed, and trailers are not shown (thereby reducing the wait time). This small effort on behalf of the theatre became a hallmark of AMC, and it enabled children, adults, and families of all abilities to enjoy going to the movies together. This legislation is similar in that it is making movie theatres accessible beyond physical accessibility. No longer will there be "separateness" when it comes to moviegoers who are deaf or hard of hearing, or who simply prefer captions.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 264.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Benevides
Elizabethbenevides1@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Annie Berke and I am Hearing. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 264 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari, Delegate Andre Johnson Jr., and Delegate Steve Johnson. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 264.

Sincerely,

Annie Berke
annie.berke@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Wayne Berke and I am Deaf. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 264 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari, Delegate Andre Johnson Jr., and Delegate Steve Johnson. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

I rather have the open captioning than the "tools" are up to my face. Sometimes I see the characters in the "tools" are missing a lot in the show.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 264.

Sincerely,

Wayne Berke
wdbford65@aol.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is John Paul Berry Jr. and I am Hearing. I live in Baltimore City.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 264 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari, Delegate Andre Johnson Jr., and Delegate Steve Johnson. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 264.

Sincerely,

John Paul Berry Jr.
jpberry@cruiseplanners.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is James Biesel and I am Deaf. I live in Howard County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 264 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari, Delegate Andre Johnson Jr., and Delegate Steve Johnson. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 264.

Sincerely,

James Biesel
jamesbiesel@gmail.com

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

February 8, 2023

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Linda Biskupiak and I am Deaf. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 264 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari, Delegate Andre Johnson Jr., and Delegate Steve Johnson. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 264.

Sincerely,

Linda Biskupiak
lindabiskupiak@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Ann C. Black and I am DeafBlind. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 264 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari, Delegate Andre Johnson Jr., and Delegate Steve Johnson. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

I enjoy seeing movies, but I cannot see movies. If a movie is captioned, my deaf friends can interpret for me.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 264.

Sincerely,

Ann C. Black
annblack@comcast.net

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Daniella Blake-Aranbayeva and I am Hearing. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 264 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari, Delegate Andre Johnson Jr., and Delegate Steve Johnson. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 264.

Sincerely,

Daniella Blake-Aranbayeva
daniella.blakearanbayeva@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Janetta Blake-Aranbayeva and I am Hearing. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 264 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari, Delegate Andre Johnson Jr., and Delegate Steve Johnson. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 264.

Sincerely,

Janetta Blake-Aranbayeva
janetta.ba04@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Sean Blake and I am Deaf. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 264 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari, Delegate Andre Johnson Jr., and Delegate Steve Johnson. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 264.

Sincerely,

Sean Blake
dcsblake@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Beverly Boateng and I am Deaf. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 264 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari, Delegate Andre Johnson Jr., and Delegate Steve Johnson. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 264.

Sincerely,

Barbara Boateng
Bbakery03@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Jeanette Boice and I am Deaf. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 264 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari, Delegate Andre Johnson Jr., and Delegate Steve Johnson. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 264.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Boice
M82jboice@yahoo.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Amy Bopp and I am Deaf. I live in Baltimore City.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 264 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari, Delegate Andre Johnson Jr., and Delegate Steve Johnson. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 264.

Sincerely,

Amy Bopp
Bopp56@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Tiffany Bridgett, and I am Deaf. I live in Anne Arundel County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 264 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari, Delegate Andre Johnson Jr., and Delegate Steve Johnson. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

I can't even go on movie dates with my dear boyfriend....

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 264.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Bridgett
tiffany.bridgetr@gallaudet.edu

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Eleanor Brown and I am DeafBlind. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 264 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari, Delegate Andre Johnson Jr., and Delegate Steve Johnson. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they have access to the movie without using devices or other methods same as other people who go to the movie.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 264.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Brown
eleanormd90@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is BT and I am Deaf. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **HB 264 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Delegate Harry Bhandari, Delegate Andre Johnson Jr., and Delegate Steve Johnson. This bill will require all motion picture houses to offer closed captioning for each screening of a motion picture; and require that certain motion picture houses provide open captioning for at least two screenings each week.

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Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on HB 264.

Sincerely,

BT
harleybat@aol.com