

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Laureen Lynch, 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.

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.

It will be more pleasurable to watch a film with open captioning without worrying about having any devices on my face to read or in a cup holder to read the closed captioning. Please give us an opportunity to watch and enjoy like others.

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

Sincerely,

Laureen Lynch
llynchryan@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Alicia Mullins 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 have a gift card to the movie theater on route 40 but have not used it yet. What's holding me back is that open captioned movies are on during the hours I work. Many times a particular movie is only Open Captioning for one day. I would be more than happy to see a movie if there was a variety of times a movie is Open Captioning.

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

Sincerely,

Alicia Mullins
mullins8520@comcast.net

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Lawrence Musa 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,

Lawrence Musa
lawrence.musa@gallaudet.edu

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Alyssa Myers 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.

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

Sincerely,

Alyssa Myers
Alyssamyers521@gmail.com

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

February 8, 2023

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Mark J. Myers 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.

My experience is in favor of open captioning at any movie screens, anytime, and any places in Maryland!

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

Sincerely,

Mark J. Myers
mjmmyers2012@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Nat 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.

My wife and our three kids are all Deaf. We immensely enjoy going to theaters to see films with open captions. Our biggest issue essentially is the inability to go see any movie at any time with open captions. We instead have to rely on theaters who set open captions by day, and we usually have to work around our schedule to be able to attend.

Although there's always the opportunity to use open caption devices, they are often clunky, unreliable and detract from the overall experience. Having words on the screen is immensely beneficial and hearing people can also benefit if they miss dialogue or particular sounds due to excessive movie noise.

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

Sincerely,

Nat
bladezone@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Molly O'Hara 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.

Would like a fair chance to enjoy movies like all others folks.

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

Sincerely,

Molly O'Hara
failte.molly@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Oghenerukevwe-Ogra and I am Hard of Hearing. 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.

I would really like to have open captioning with accessibility everywhere I go.

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

Sincerely,

Oghenerukevwe-Ogra
oghenerukevwe-ogra@pgcps.org

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Gina A. Oliva and I am Hard of Hearing. 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,

Gina A. Oliva
Gina.oliva09@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is John Olumoya 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 do not wish to share public "googles" in theaters to view "closed captioning". Please give us a healthy option to view captions as open captions without touching shared viewing equipment which are not being sanitized for the public use.

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

Sincerely,

John Olumoya
John.olumoya@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Jill Owens Brick and I am Deaf. I live in Baltimore 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,

Jill Owens Brick
jillaowens@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Rita Owens 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.

I'd like to attend any movie with open captions in my neighborhood anytime when it is available instead of picking one of few captioned movies in further areas.

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

Sincerely,

Rita Owens
nkowens@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Andrea Haas Panella 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,

Andrea Haas Panella
amhpanella@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is YoungHae Park-Palabrica, 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,

YoungHae Park-Palabrica
yhaepark.mobile@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Debra Patkin 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,

Debra Patkin
debrajoy@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Larry Pearce, 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,

Larry Pearce
ravenclaw70@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Carolyn Perry 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,

Carolyn Perry
Csperry1@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Kate Peters, and I am Hard of Hearing. 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,

Kate Peters
kmppeters@yahoo.com

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

February 8, 2023

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Kristie Pichler and I am Hearing. I live in Queen Anne'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.

My story is that we recently went to the movies in Easton, MD and we requested a caption device for our Hard of Hearing son. We both gave up when we weren't able to read the captions in the same vision plane as the movie.

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

Sincerely,

Kristie Pichler
kristie.pichler@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Elke Pieters 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.

I'm in desire for the freedom of watching movies without needing to use devices and without guessing what the story plot was about if the devices weren't available. I want to be like those hearing people who have full access with great pleasure and relaxation during movies. I envy them. I wish for the same freedom.

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

Sincerely,

Elke Pieters
epieters@gmail.com