

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Sandra Crovo and I am Deaf. I live in Calvert 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.

Free hand from devices and prefer open captioning on screen like television has.

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

Sincerely,

Sandra Crovo
scrovo07@gmail.com

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

February 8, 2023

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Kristin daCosta 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.

My experience with Open Captions in movie theaters will enable me and my husband (deaf) to enjoy watching the movie **WITHOUT** the hassle and pain of using devices in our hands. Adjusting the devices frequently during the movie, eye strain, and problems with devices (i.e. not working or breaks down during the film), etc. We deserve and have the same rights as hearing patrons to enjoy the movies without the added technological burden on us.

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

Sincerely,

Kristin daCosta
dtp65silkyt10@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Christopher Daley 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,

Christopher Daley
chrisnd@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Emma Danielson 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 want to go to the movies with my hearing daughters and be able to enjoy it with them.

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

Sincerely,

Emma Danielson
edanielson84@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Amy Daupin 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,

Amy Daupin
amydaupgin@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Gabrielle Davis 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.

Frustrating when there is not enough open captions in movie theaters.

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

Sincerely,

Gabrielle Davis
gdavis3115@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Jerome Davis and I am 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 want equal access for my Deaf wife in any movie theaters that provide open captions.

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

Sincerely,

Jerome Davis
JDDavis14@aol.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Stephen De Muth 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.

Movies with open captioning are very beneficial for deaf moviegoers.

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

Sincerely,

Stephen De Muth
muscles54va@yahoo.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Blaise Delahoussaye, 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,

Blaise Delahoussaye
wolfrog65@yahoo.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Janet DeLap 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.

Going to a movie theater and paying good money (not to mention \$ popcorn & sodas) and not being able to know what's going on in the film does us Deafs a disservice. Hey - to be fair to ALL - show movies without sound and let people who hear pay for headphones.

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

Sincerely,

Janet DeLap
janedelap@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Reba Dellangelo 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,

Reba Dellangelo
rebapsu@comcast.net

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Chris DeSomma and I am Hard of Hearing. I live in Carroll 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,

Chris DeSomma
cdesgt67@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Meredith DeSomma and I am Deaf. I live in Carroll 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 2 Deaf & Hard of Hearing lower elementary aged children who can't wear those closed-captioning glasses or use the CaptiView to be able to enjoy the movie with me as a family movie night time. Open Caption will allow us to really enjoy the movie while having a family quality time without any barriers, struggles, tense feelings between ourselves and movie employees with those devices.

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

Sincerely,

Meredith DeSomma
mdutchy81@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Jamie Marie DeTurrís and I am 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 am an educator for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. I believe this bill will be so important to all of our students as they grow up to be included just like their peers and live a very productive life. Any bills we can pass to allow access to those who need it, is always a win win!

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

Sincerely,

Jamie Marie DeTurrís
Jamie.deturris@pgcps.org

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

February 8, 2023

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Lisa Devlin and I am Hard of 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,

Lisa Devlin
lisadevlin520@gmail.com |

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Allysa Dittmar 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,

Allysa Dittmar
Allysa.dittmar@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Rosemary Dockter, 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,

Rosemary Dockter
redockter@gmail.com

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Leslie Dolan and I am Hearing. 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 story... I am a teacher of the Deaf/ Hard of hearing in Prince George's county. I believe that all theaters should provide open captioning for equal access!

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

Sincerely,

Leslie Dolan
lesliesped@yahoo.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Rebecca Doleac and I am Hearing. I live in Calvert 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 am a CODA (child of deaf adults) and an avid movie goer. The difference of seeing a movie with open captions for deaf people is outstanding. They are able to fully enjoy the movie and it does not take away from the hearing persons experience. I would love to be able to see a movie with my family and for them to enjoy it as much as I will.

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

Sincerely,

Rebecca Doleac
doleacrebecca@gmail.com

February 8, 2023

Economic Matters Committee
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Economic Matters Committee:

My name is Sarah Burton Doleac and I am Deaf. I live in Calvert 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 captions help me understand everything better for my knowledge and education.

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

Sincerely,

Sarah Burton Doleac
sarah.doleac@gallaudet.edu