

HB260
Favorable

Delegate Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk
Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee
Room 241, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

February 13, 2023

Dear Chair Pena-Melnyk,

My name is Michele Westfall, and I'm the chair of the Maryland Advisory Council on Deaf and Hard of Hearing (MACDHH). MACDHH advises the Maryland Governor's Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing on matters and issues affecting the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and DeafBlind communities.

It is vitally important that all Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and DeafBlind Marylanders are protected as consumers, and this bill will provide all of us with that protection. Licensing interpreters is a good way to hold interpreters accountable, and to provide Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and DeafBlind Marylanders with a way to reliably report unqualified or poorly trained interpreters. This is an important step forward for Maryland, and as a Deaf citizen and the chair of MACDHH, I fully support this bill. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michele Westfall
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