

February 16, 2023

Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Mencie Hairston and I am Hearing. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. 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.

My husband is deaf. We've been married for 43 years. It would be lovely to go on movie dates with him if open captions are available.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Mencie Hairston
mencie.hairston@gmail.com

February 16, 2023

Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Najla Hall, and I am Hearing. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,
Najla Hall
najlahall8614@gmail.com

February 16, 2023

Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Ruqayyah Hall and I am Hearing. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,
Ruqayyah Hall
hallruqayyah@gmail.com

February 16, 2023

Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Rebekka Halseth, and I am Hearing. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. 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.

We have friends and family who rely on captions. It matters a great deal to have the option of going out to the movies with them.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Rebekka Halseth
Rebekka.Halseth@gmail.com

February 16, 2023

Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Robert M. Hanson, and I am Hearing. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Hanson
robhanson71@gmail.com

February 16, 2023

Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Erin C. Harrison and I am Hearing. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. 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 am not Deaf and make use of captioning regularly! It helps to focus my attention, to catch parts I have missed, and to clarify strong accents. My niece has ADHD and the captions are a huge boon.

This small change makes a huge difference to the Deaf community, but benefits so many others. Please pass this bill.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Erin C. Harrison
Opeia.smiling@gmail.com

February 16, 2023

Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Fred Hartman, and I am Deaf. I live in Howard County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. 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 used to go to the movies using the devices however most of them were not working properly. Have not been going to the theaters ever since.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Fred Hartman
fredbeckhart@gmail.com

February 16, 2023

Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Frederic Hartman, and I am Deaf. I live in Howard County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. 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.

As a member of the Maryland Advisory Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing I keep hearing many unfortunate stories from the deaf community about the lack of Open Captioned movies. It's time for us to fight until the issues are solved.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Frederic Hartman
FHartman6@gmail.com

February 16, 2023

Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Thomas Hattaway, and I am Deaf. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Thomas Hattaway
tomhattaway@icloud.com

February 16, 2023

Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Karl Hedberg, and I am Deaf. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. 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'm for equality and I enjoy watching movies at the theatre like everyone.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,
Karl Hedberg
sweducks@yahoo.com

February 16, 2023

Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Barbara Hemstreet, and I am Deaf. I live in Carroll County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. 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.

We need movie theaters to provide better access to information on the website.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Barbara Hemstreet
bahemstreet@gmail.com

February 16, 2023

Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Brendan Hlibok, and I am Hearing. I live in Howard County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. 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.

My parents are both deaf and movies have always been a challenge for us as not all showings include captions and we have to work around the movie theatre's schedule which usually puts captions on the less desirable showings, giving a lower quality experience to my parents and I. They should be afforded the same opportunities to attend whatever showing they want, just like a hearing person can.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Brendan Hlibok
brendanhlibok@gmail.com

February 16, 2023

Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Charmaine Hlibok, and I am Deaf. I live in Howard County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. 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.

Please make open captions available in all movie theaters- so movies can be accessible for everyone!

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Charmaine Hlibok
charmainehlibok@gmail.com

February 16, 2023

Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Greg Hlibok, and I am Deaf. I live in Baltimore City.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. 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.

Every resident in Maryland, regardless of their status, is entitled to full and equal access to information, including in a movie theatre. This bill is long overdue. Although it does not confirm full access to all showings, it is a step forward in the right direction and demonstrates to others in the movie theatre community what it means to be inclusive, open captioning for all!

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Greg Hlibok
ghlibok@gmail.com

February 16, 2023

Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Lauren Ann Hlibok, and I am Hearing. I live in Howard County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. 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 is important to create accessibility for everyone with open captions.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Lauren Ann Hlibok
laurenhlibok@gmail.com

February 16, 2023

Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Rainer Hlibok, and I am Hearing. I live in Howard County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. 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 grew up with deaf parents, and the decision to go to the movie theaters was often governed by if the movie had captions or not. And when the movie didn't have captions, and we really wanted to go, my parents would have to sit through 2-3 hours of not being able to understand what was going on in the movie. This is not right, please caption showings of movies to make them more accessible to everyone (plus it makes it easier to understand even for hearing people when the movie is quiet or hard to understand). Make captioning the norm, and non-captioned movies the less frequent version (for those who truly do not like to watch movies with captions).

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Rainer Hlibok
Rainerhlibok@gmail.com

February 16, 2023

Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Lisa Hollywood, and I am Deaf. I live in Anne Arundel County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Lisa Hollywood
lisah31@verizon.net

February 16, 2023

Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Elizabeth Hortie, and I am Deaf. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Hortie
bethhortie@gmail.com

February 16, 2023

Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Matthew Hourihan, and I am Hearing. I live in Howard County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

Matthew Hourihan
matthew5588@gmail.com

February 16, 2023

Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
State Capitol
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is MariaReyes Hourihan, and I am Deaf. I live in Howard County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 400 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks and Senator C. Anthony Muse. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 400.

Sincerely,

MariaReyes Hourihan
reyeshourihan@gmail.com