

February 16, 2023

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Rosemary Dockter, and I am Deaf. 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,
Rosemary Dockter
redockter@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 Leslie Dolan, and I am Hearing. 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.

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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 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 SB 400.

Sincerely,

Leslie Dolan
lesliesped@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 Rebecca Doleac, and I am Hearing. I live in Calvert 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.

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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 SB 400.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Doleac
doleacrebecca@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 Sarah Burton Doleac, and I am Deaf. I live in Calvert 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.

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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 SB 400.

Sincerely,

Sarah Burton Doleac
sarah.doleac@gallaudet.edu

February 16, 2023

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Kathleen Moran Doskos and I am Deaf. I live in Baltimore 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.

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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 always enjoyed going to the open captioned movies with hearing people (my children, family, friends, colleagues, etc...) which have been severely limited for years. I would appreciate for your support for this SB 400 which would allow more connections between the Deaf/Hard of Hearing and Hearing people to become a "universal" society.

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

Sincerely,

Kathleen Moran Doskos
kmdoskos@aol.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 Jennifer Drew, 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.

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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 SB 400.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Drew
jendrewms@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 Sharon Duchesneau, 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.

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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.

Please require open captions for all movies shown in Maryland. This is the best way to ensure access. Closed captioning devices are awkward, unreliable, and uncomfortable to use.

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

Sincerely,
Sharon Duchesneau
sharonduchesneau@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 Shane Patrick Dundas, and I am Deaf. 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.

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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 my life to be at ease and without anxiety for full accessibility in movies. I don't want to wear or use any devices that hearing people don't use. It's not equitable. I want to be happy and relaxed watching a movie like hearing people - HOW??? By having fully accessible open captioning on the movie screen. It should be the norm at every corner of the earth. It's all about the attitude towards an equitable world we want to live in co-equally.

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

Sincerely,
Shane Patrick Dundas
spdundas@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 Gloria Dunham and I am Deaf. 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.

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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 SB 400.

Sincerely,

Gloria Dunham
Gdunham15@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 Yvonne Dunkle, 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.

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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 SB 400.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Dunkle
ydunkle@aol.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 Andrea Edwards 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.

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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 SB 400.

Sincerely,

Andrea Edwards
Andrea.edwards@pgcps.org

February 16, 2023

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Gail Edwards 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.

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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 stopped going to movie theaters because their glasses weren't charged up almost every time at my extreme inconvenience. Open captioning should be mainstreamed anyway; hearing people, especially younger ones, are beginning to turn on and rely on captioning for variety of reasons. This should be the new norm and I can see it already becoming acceptable by the general public.

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

Sincerely,

Gail Edwards
gailcbsr@aol.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 Ricky Edwards, 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.

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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 SB 400.

Sincerely,

Ricky Edwards
rickyechef@aol.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 JoAnn Elliott and I am Hearing. 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.

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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 deaf spouse and I would love to be able to go to the movies without the contraptions for closed captioning in the theaters. The "eyeglasses" hurt your nose and weigh down your own glasses to make it work. Captiview devices aren't without problems either: whether their batteries are charged (or, not,) whether the device neck holds up, whether it can be seen easily by shorter or taller people. The most even-handed solution is to have open captioning-- accessible, easy to locate in theaters, regularly! We would like to be theater-goers again.

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

Sincerely,

JoAnn Elliott
Elliott.tilden@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 SallyAnn Emiliusand, 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.

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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 SB 400.

Sincerely,

SallyAnn Emilius
sabemils@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 Diane Emmanuel 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.

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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 SB 400.

Sincerely,

Diane Emmanuel
Diane.emman@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 Dillip Emmanuel 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.

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

Sincerely,

Dillip Emmanuel
dillipmemman@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 Hollie Fallstone 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.

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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 SB 400.

Sincerely,

Hollie Fallstone
hfallstone@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 Andrea A. Feldman, and I am Deaf. 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.

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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.

The first time that I saw captions was watching “One Day at a Time” back in the 1970s and I laughed so hard that I cried. I was able to join my family and friends in laughing at the same TV shows or movies.

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

Sincerely,
Andrea A. Feldman
alafeldman@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 Roy Fernandes, and I am Deaf. 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.

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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.

First of all, I've been asking where open-captioned films are all the time. It is not right for me to travel far away to watch captioned films. It would be helpful if all MD movie theaters' movies are captioned without finding one movie at a specific location. Second, open captioned film is more helpful than deaf devices such as sony glasses, captiview, etc which doesn't work obviously according to many viewers. Third, it would help boost the film business if films are captioned because many people, including young generations will attend more than before. Hope this helps.

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

Sincerely,

Roy Fernandes
royfern@gmail.com