

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Shelby Abdilah, and I am Hearing. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 hearing person, open captioning helps me not miss any of the dialogue in a movie. At home I perpetually leave my closed captions on because of this. Open captioning is universal design, and helps everyone.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 92.

Sincerely,

Shelby Abdilah  
shelby.abdilah@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Fatimah Abdul-Rahim, and I am Deaf. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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.

Deaf people deserve equal access to movies through open captioning, just like hearing people have with audio. Imagine the frustration of not being able to fully experience a movie because of lack of accessibility. Let's make sure open captions are available for all!

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 92.

Sincerely,

Fatimah Abdul-Rahim  
fatimah215@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Ido Achrak and I am Deaf. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 of the video. Captions are particularly beneficial for persons watching videos in their non-native language, children and adults learning to read, and 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 92.

Sincerely,

Ido Achrak  
Aido842@yahoo.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Alexandra Adams, and I am Hearing. I live in Baltimore City.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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.

Open captioning is always a useful tool. It's unobtrusive and often beneficial. Even as a hearing person, I find them helpful for understanding dialogue or providing clarity.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 92.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Adams  
alexandragracedadams@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Tammy Adams, and I am Hearing. I live in Wicomico County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 92.

Sincerely,

Tammy Adams  
mrstadams@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Leah Adekunle-Raji and I am Hearing and a person with neurodivergent, auditory processing disorders. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 of the video. Captions are particularly beneficial for persons watching videos in their non-native language, children and adults learning to read, and 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, the 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 92.

Sincerely,

Leah Adekunle-Raji  
leah.raji@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Michelle Ailstock, and I am Deaf. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 92.

Sincerely,

Michelle Ailstock  
michellegailstock@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

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

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 92.

Sincerely,

Peace Ajao  
peaceajao15@gmail.com



February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Jennifer Ajifowoke, and I am Deaf. I live in Anne Arundel County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 92.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Ajifowoke  
chibuezejennifer@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Olalekan Ajifowoke, and I am Deaf. I live in Anne Arundel County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 92.

Sincerely,

Olalekan Ajifowoke  
ajifowokesamson@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Taye Akinola and I am Deaf.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 92.

Sincerely,

Taye Akinola  
taye.akinola@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Nkiruka Akunwafor, and I am Deaf. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 lifelong Maryland resident, it has been hard for me to watch movies. Now with a few movie theaters offering open captions, I am thrilled but always limited and not the movies I desire to watch. I would love to have more options to choose which theater and movies I want to watch like other people do.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 92.

Sincerely,

Nkiruka Akunwafor  
msnkikia@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Courtney Alcott and I am Hard of Hearing.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 of the video. Captions are particularly beneficial for persons watching videos in their non-native language, children and adults learning to read, and persons who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Most importantly, the bill provides communities with the assurance and peace of mind that they can access the movie without using devices or other methods, the 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 92.

Sincerely,

Courtney Alcott  
courtneyalcott@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Andy Aldrin and I am Hearing. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 of the video. Captions are particularly beneficial for persons watching videos in their non-native language, children and adults learning to read, and 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, the 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 92.

Sincerely,

Andy Aldrin  
andyaldrin10@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Shawna Alexander and I am a person learning English as a second language. I live in Baltimore City.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 92.

Sincerely,

Shawna Alexander  
shawna\_alexander@yahoo.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Patti Alford, and I am Deaf. I live in Carroll County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 of 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 92.

Sincerely,

Patti Alford  
pealford122@gmail.com



February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Mansour Ali and I am Hearing, a person learning English as a second language. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 of the video. Captions are particularly beneficial for persons watching videos in their non-native language, children and adults learning to read, and 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.

Open captions in movies are crucial for ensuring inclusivity and accessibility for all. By incorporating open captions directly into the film, everyone can enjoy and understand the dialogue, sound effects, and music, fostering a more inclusive cinematic experience. This not only enhances accessibility but also promotes a more diverse and welcoming environment within the entertainment industry.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 92.

Sincerely,

Mansour Ali  
mansour\_ali@yahoo.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Tricia Alleyne, and I am Deaf.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 92.

Sincerely,

Tricia Alleyne  
mstricalleyne19@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Frank Allnutt, and I am Deaf.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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.

Although I am a resident of the eastern panhandle of West Virginia, I attend movies in Maryland all the time in the Hagerstown area. Having more open captioned movies will allow me to continue to spend money supporting local businesses and for me to enjoy an evening out with my family watching movies.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 92.

Sincerely,

Frank Allnutt  
fsallnutt@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Alicia Altamirano Bautista and I am Hearing. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 92.

Sincerely,

Alicia Altamirano Bautista  
troubleama@yahoo.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Manuel Alvarez, and I am Hearing. I live in Baltimore City.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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.

In this advance era where the distribution communications it is not just audio, but in many ways such as verbal and non-verbal, written, visual, we need to have a law to deliver to the deaf community with the same rights of a hearing person to delightfully enjoy the any cinemas, we need the same enjoyment to be extended to us the deaf community to mandate all cinema to provide Open Caption systems and tools. It is frustrating to go to a cinema that does not offer Open Caption Services.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 92.

Sincerely,

Manuel Alvarez  
manuelrealestate@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Amanda Amati and I am Deaf. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 92.

Sincerely,

Amanda Amati  
Amatiamanda@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Donalda Ammons, and I am Deaf.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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.

This is essential to the literacy of ALL people!

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 92.

Sincerely,

Donalda Ammons  
donalda.ammons@gallaudet.edu

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Paula Jean Ammons, and I am Deaf. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 92.

Sincerely,

Paula Jean Ammons  
pjammons@icloud.com



February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Nancy Anderson, and I am Hard of Hearing.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 typically drive 2 hrs from Virginia to see an open captioned movie in Maryland. I need open captioning movies to enjoy with my deaf husband.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 92.

Sincerely,

Nancy Anderson  
lakefredlady60@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Timothy Anderson, and I am Deaf.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 have recently enjoyed viewing films that are open captioned because finally I am able to follow English and music words in Maryland after 50 years not comprehending dialogue on movies in theaters.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 92.

Sincerely,

Timothy Anderson  
lakefredtim038@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Stella Antonio, and I am Deaf. I live in Baltimore County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 92.

Sincerely,

Stella Antonio  
scorpiostar1109@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Maribel Aponte-Ortiz, and I am Deaf. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 92.

Sincerely,

Maribel Aponte-Ortiz  
nycbutterfly68@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Larisa Aranbayeva and I am Deaf. I live in Montgomery County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 92.

Sincerely,

Larisa Aranbayeva  
larisa.aran@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Sue-Ann Arboine, and I have a neurodivergent, auditory processing disorder. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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.

When I watch movies, I sometimes have a hard time understanding what someone who is off camera might say, but open captioning helps to capture everything in real time.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 92.

Sincerely,

Sue-Ann Arboine  
s.arboine809@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Ana Argueta, and I am Hard of Hearing. I live in Prince George's County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 92.

Sincerely,

Ana Argueta  
anabelle1495@yahoo.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Gregory Arment and I am Hard of Hearing. I live in Baltimore County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 of the video. Captions are particularly beneficial for persons watching videos in their non-native language, children and adults learning to read, and 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, the 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 92.

Sincerely,

Gregory Arment  
Gearment19@gmail.com



February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Tiffany Arnett, and I am Hearing. I live in Allegany County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 92.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Arnett  
tiffyarnett2010@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Shivani Arya and I am Hearing. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 of the video. Captions are particularly beneficial for persons watching videos in their non-native language, children and adults learning to read, and 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.

Open captions in movies play a pivotal role in making cinematic experiences accessible. Unlike closed captions, which can be turned on or off, open captions are permanently displayed, ensuring that individuals can effortlessly follow dialogue and audio elements. This not only enhances their enjoyment of films but also reflects a commitment to inclusivity within the entertainment industry, fostering a more diverse and welcoming cinematic landscape for all audiences.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 92.

Sincerely,

Shivani Arya  
arya\_shivani@yahoo.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Melissa Aulhouse and I am Hearing. I live in Washington County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 of the video. Captions are particularly beneficial for persons watching videos in their non-native language, children and adults learning to read, and 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, the same as other people who go to the movie.

My son, Jared, is Deaf, and has been excluded from fully participating in movie experiences his entire life. This is a favorite family activity of ours, yet, Jared often frequently chooses staying home rather than facing the anxiety of whether or not the glasses will function. He has been on a date with his girlfriend who is also Deaf, and suffered through the embarrassment and disappointment of leaving a movie theater because the glasses weren't functioning. To add insult to injury, was not refunded for the tickets or overpriced refreshments. In addition to the glasses not working, they are bulky, awkward, and uncomfortable. No one wants to wear these humiliating things. It's an embarrassment no one should have to endure. In addition to Deaf people, hard of hearing, neurodivergent, elderly, and English learners all benefit from open captioning. Lots of people spanning a wide variety of the population need this change. Furthermore, it is inexcusable for our theaters to refuse to implement this basic technology, and willingly discriminate against a large segment of the population.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 92.

Sincerely,

Melissa Aulhouse  
melissaaulhouse@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Karen Averett, and I am Deaf. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 92.

Sincerely,

Karen Averett  
klsheffer@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Jillian Azrelyant and I am Deaf. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 of the video. Captions are particularly beneficial for persons watching videos in their non-native language, children and adults learning to read, and 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 92.

Sincerely,

Jillian Azrelyant  
Theazrelyants@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

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

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 92.

Sincerely,

Larissa Baer  
larissaecbaer@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Carol Baker, and I am Deaf. I live in Anne Arundel County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 92.

Sincerely,

Carol Baker  
canport88@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Gregory Baker and I am Hard of Hearing. I live in Baltimore City.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 of the video. Captions are particularly beneficial for persons watching videos in their non-native language, children and adults learning to read, and 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 92.

Sincerely,

Gregory Baker  
tinkinbalto@gmail.com



February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Donna Ballmer and I am Deaf. I live in Howard County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 of the video. Captions are particularly beneficial for persons watching videos in their non-native language, children and adults learning to read, and 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 92.

Sincerely,

Donna Ballmer  
[Dballmer@gmail.com](mailto:Dballmer@gmail.com)

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is James Ballmer and I am Deaf. I live in Howard County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 of the video. Captions are particularly beneficial for persons watching videos in their non-native language, children and adults learning to read, and 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 92.

Sincerely,

James Ballmer  
[Jkballmer@gmail.com](mailto:Jkballmer@gmail.com)

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Ally Balsley and I am Deaf, a person learning English as a second language. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 first open caption movie was at 12 years old watching *Titanic*. I went to every open captioning movies that weekend. And no movie was open captioned after that for another few years. That is the life I grew up into, not having accessible movies. I do not want my three deaf children to also miss out on movie theater experiences just because there are limited showings. We hope Maryland will show the country what accessibility should be like. Embrace equality !

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 92.

Sincerely,

Ally Balsley  
ladybalsley@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Nat Balsley, and I am Deaf. I live in Frederick County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 92.

Sincerely,

Nat Balsley  
bladezone@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

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

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 hearing person, open captioning is beneficial to myself. I think Open Captions should be accessible for all Marylanders.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 92.

Sincerely,

Joi Bannister  
joi.bannister@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Alex Bardsley and I am Hearing.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 of the video. Captions are particularly beneficial for persons watching videos in their non-native language, children and adults learning to read, and 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, the 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 92.

Sincerely,

Alex Bardsley  
alex.bardsley@gmail.com

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Lillian Barieur, and I am Hearing, with a neurodivergent, auditory processing disorder. I live in Howard County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 92.

Sincerely,

Lillian Barieur  
varieur@cua.edu

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Sonia Barlongo, and I am Deaf. I live in Anne Arundel County.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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.

There is a large deaf community in Maryland and we demand equal access to the open captioning in all movie theaters regardless where we live. We do see that hearing people enjoy watching any movies with audio on, then why can't we, deaf people enjoy the movies with open captioning, also?

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter and I appreciate your support on SB 92.

Sincerely,

Sonia Barlongo  
Sonia.Barlongo@gmail.com



February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

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

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 92.

Sincerely,

Malaki Barnes  
malaki-barnes@pgcps.org

February 8, 2024

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

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

My name is Tamara Barnes, and I am Hearing.

I am writing to ask you to support **SB 92 - Open Captioning Movie Bill**, sponsored by Senator Benjamin Brooks. 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 92.

Sincerely,

Tamara Barnes  
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