



February 25, 2025

Delegate Sheree Samples-Hughes
Maryland General Assembly

RE: House Bill 1363 Places of Public Accommodation - Captioning for Motion Picture Houses -
Alterations

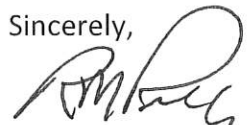
Dear Delegate Samples-Hughes,

As a human service provider for deaf and hard-of-hearing individual, we encourage you to support HB1363. We believe that the time has come due to ensure that movie theaters provide more open captioned movie options, since there are currently very limited options when theaters decide for themselves on a voluntary basis.

Its currently very difficult for individuals with hearing loss to enjoy going to the movie theater as the captioning equipment offered either doesn't work, not enough devices are available and is distracting not only to the individual using it when it malfunctions, but those surrounding them. Having open captions eliminates the frustration.

Open captioning also assists other types of disabilities other than hearing loss. Everyone deserves to have equal access.

Sincerely,



R. Michael Purkey
Executive Director