



**Maryland School for the Deaf, Frederick
Parent Staff Association**

101 Clarke Place
Frederick, Maryland 21701
MSDFPSA@gmail.com
Website: <https://bit.ly/msdfpsa>

February 25, 2025

To the Maryland Senate and House Committee Members,

On behalf of our organization, I am writing to express my strong support for the implementation of open captions across the state of Maryland (House Bill 1363), particularly in theaters with four or more screens.

Open captions are essential for ensuring that all individuals, including those who are deaf or hard of hearing, can fully participate in and enjoy the movie-going experience. By providing open captions, theaters can make their venues accessible to a wider audience and create a more inclusive environment for all.

In an era where inclusivity and accessibility are increasingly recognized as fundamental rights, it is imperative that theaters take proactive steps to address the needs of individuals with disabilities. Open captions are a simple and effective way to achieve this goal.

Furthermore, open captions benefit not only individuals with hearing loss but also those who may be learning English as a second language or who simply prefer to read along with the dialogue. By providing open captions, theaters can enhance the movie-going experience for everyone.

I urge you to consider the implementation of open captions across Maryland, particularly in theaters with four or more screens. This measure would send a strong message of inclusivity and accessibility, and it would make a significant difference in the lives of many individuals.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Amanda Amati
President, MSDF PSA
Tax #81-5125642