

Open Caption Legislation in Virginia

Written by Jamie Berke – Advocate

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Open Caption Bill for Virginia, HB 407

Update on the open caption bill for Virginia, HB 407 (see <https://legiscan.com/VA/bill/HB407/2022>): Today, the bill got assigned to the Health, Welfare and Institutions Committee, AND it also got its first co-sponsor, Delegate Kaye Kory. She is a Democrat. We need a Republican co-sponsor!

Getting the bill was the EASY part. The HARD part? Now it is in a committee. It WILL die in that Committee without passing unless YOU take action and make yourself HEARD. How can you make yourself heard? Keep reading for how and please share all the information below widely in the Virginia deaf and hard of hearing community!

Target the Chair and Vice Chair

The Committee chair is Del Robert Orrock. The Committee chair is the one with the power to move a bill. Orrock represents the Virginia counties of Caroline (part) and Spotsylvania (part). Orrock is Republican. His District is the 54th House District. If your zip code is 22407, 22408, 22427, 22508, 22551, 22553, or 22580, then Orrock is your representative and he is more likely to pay attention if you contact him. Orrock's email address is DelBORrock@house.virginia.gov. If you call, his number in Richmond is (804) 698-1054 and his local number is (540) 891-1322.

Vice Chair is Del. Christopher Head. He does not have as much power, but maybe he can influence the Chair. Head represents the Virginia Counties of Botetourt (part) and Roanoke (part); City of Roanoke (part). Head is Republican. His District is the 17th House District. If your zip code is 24012, 24013, 24014, 24015, 24017, 24018, 24019, 24020, 24065, 24077, 24153, 24175, or 24179, then Head is your representative. Head's email address is DelCHead@house.virginia.gov. If you call, his number in Richmond is (804) 698-1017 and his local number is (540) 283-2839.

Contact the Entire Committee

You have TWO ways you can make yourself heard to the entire committee.

- 1) You can use this link and select HB 407 as shown in the picture, to submit your statement: https://hodspeak.house.virginia.gov/committees/H12/bill_feedback

OR

- 2) You can copy and paste all the email addresses below to send an email to every Committee member at once.

DelBORrock@house.virginia.gov
DelCHead@house.virginia.gov
DelRBell@house.virginia.gov
DelKHodges@house.virginia.gov
DelJEdmunds@house.virginia.gov
DelRRobinson@house.virginia.gov
DelWWalker@house.virginia.gov
DelMFariss@house.virginia.gov
DelMCherry@house.virginia.gov
DelPScott@house.virginia.gov
DelMMarch@house.virginia.gov
DelOWachsmann@house.virginia.gov
DelMSickles@house.virginia.gov
DelPHope@house.virginia.gov
DelMPrice@house.virginia.gov
DelCHayes@house.virginia.gov
DelKDelaney@house.virginia.gov
DelDAdams@house.virginia.gov
DelEGuzman@house.virginia.gov
DelKTran@house.virginia.gov
DelRWillett@house.virginia.gov
DelSHudson@house.virginia.gov