

ORDINANCE NO. _____, SERIES 2018

AN ORDINANCE CREATING A NEW SECTION OF CHAPTER 35 OF THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT CODE OF ORDINANCES REGARDING CLOSED CAPTIONING ON TELEVISIONS IN LOUISVILLE METRO GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS.

SPONSORED BY: COUNCILMEMBER ANGELA LEET

WHEREAS, the Metro Council recognizes that there are many living in our community who are deaf and hard of hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Metro Council believes that requiring activation of closed captioning on compatible television receivers in Louisville Metro Government buildings in areas open to the public improves the health, safety, and welfare of Louisville Metro by increasing available channels of communication to persons who are deaf and hard of hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Metro Council encourages those owning and operating business in the private sector to provide closed captioning television programming so that the deaf and hard of hearing community may have the same access to the programs available to the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I: A subsection of chapter 35 is hereby enacted as follows:

§ 35.____ DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this subchapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning:

CLOSED CAPTIONING means a transcript or dialog of the audio portion of a television program that is displayed on a television receiver screen when the user activates the feature.

CLOSED-CAPTIONING TELEVISION RECEIVER means a receiver of television programming that has the ability to display closed captioning, including but not limited to a television, digital set top box, and any other technology capable of displaying closed captioning for television programming.

PUBLIC AREA means a part of a building that is open to the general public.

BUSINESS HOURS means the hours of any day in which a Louisville Metro Government office is open to members of the general public.

§ 35.____ CLOSED CAPTIONING OF LOUISVILLE METRO TELEVISIONS IN PUBLIC AREAS.

(A) Any Louisville Metro Government building must activate and leave activated closed captioning on any closed-captioned television receiver in use in any public area during regular hours.

(B) This section does not require a Louisville Metro Government building to make closed captioning available in a public area if: (1) no television receiver of any kind is available in the public area; or (2) the only public television receiver available in the public area is not a closed-captioning television receiver.

(C) If a Louisville Metro Government building has more than one television in a public area with the same channel or program being broadcast, only one of the televisions is subject to this section.

(D) Any Louisville Metro employee found to be in violation of this subsection may be disciplined, up to and including termination.

SECTION II: This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and approval.

H. Stephen Ott
Metro Council Clerk

David James
President of the Council

Greg Fischer
Mayor

Approval Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Michael J. O'Connell
Jefferson County Attorney

BY: _____

O-309-18 TV Closed Captioning CW Leet 9-10-18 sjm Revised.docx