

Brian Hinrichs
Bangor Symphony Orchestra

My name is Brian Hinrichs, I am the executive director of the Bangor Symphony Orchestra. COVID-19 has decimated the performing arts industry. At the Bangor Symphony Orchestra, our ticket revenues are down over 80% and our overall revenues are down over 30%. We have been fortunate enough to receive community support to present a digital season, but this is at great expense: we have spent over \$20,000 on a COVID-19 testing regimen for performers, over \$5,000 on plexiglass and PPE, and well over \$40,000 on the technology and production personnel to transmit our performances safely online. All the while, we are still only able to hire our musicians for roughly 20% of a traditional pre-Covid season. The fact is, the numbers don't add up, and we need relief like LD 1566 to fill the gap left from depleted ticket sales so we can continue to increase hiring of performers and serving our communities. We were the first to close and will be the last to FULLY reopen.