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Date: (Filing No. S-)

INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 526, L.D. 1641, “An Act To Ensure Continued Access to Film and Stage Theaters and Music Venues”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community Development To Create a Program and Fund To Provide Grants To Movie and Stage Theaters and Music Venues'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. Department of Economic and Community Development to create a program and fund to provide grants to movie and stage theaters and music venues. Resolved: That the Department of Economic and Community Development shall create a program and fund to provide grants to movie and stage theaters and music venues within this State that meet the eligibility requirements pursuant to section 2. The sources of the fund are any funds derived from the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 that are eligible for the purposes of this program. The department shall administer the funds received according to guidance provided by the United States Department of the Treasury. The Department of Economic and Community Development shall report to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business by January 15, 2022 on the program implementation and utilization.

Sec. 2. Eligibility. Resolved: An applicant for a grant under the program created pursuant to section 1 must demonstrate that the applicant:

- 1. Operates in this State either:
 - A. A movie theater that has at least one permanent indoor auditorium for viewing films for entertainment by members of the general public who attend through the purchase of individual tickets to view a specific film that is not adult-oriented and had at least \$15,000 in ticket sales in calendar year 2019;

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1 B. A stage theater that has at least one permanent stage for viewing live plays or similar
2 stage productions by members of the general public who attend through the purchase
3 of individual tickets; or

4 C. A music venue that has at least one public space for viewing a live concert or
5 musical performance by members of the general public who attend through the
6 purchase of individual tickets, and the majority of income generated by the music
7 venue is derived through such ticket sales;

8 2. Experienced a financial loss as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic that limited the
9 capacity or operations of the movie theater, stage theater or music venue; and

10 3. Has no current state or local tax liens on record from prior to March 15, 2020 related
11 to the movie theater, stage theater or music venue.'

12 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
13 number to read consecutively.

14 **SUMMARY**

15 This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill with
16 a resolve. The resolve directs the Department of Economic and Community Development
17 to create and administer a program and fund to provide grants to movie and stage theaters
18 and music venues within this State. The funds for the program come from funds available
19 for the purpose of the program in the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. The
20 department is required to follow guidelines from the United States Department of the
21 Treasury for the use of those funds in creating the program. The eligibility criteria in the
22 bill are changed to remove the 30% decline in ticket sales and replace it with a demonstrated
23 financial loss as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. It also adds that an applicant is still
24 eligible if a state or local tax lien on record was applied on or after March 15, 2020. The
25 department is required to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation,
26 Development, Economic Advancement and Business by January 15, 2022.