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Maine State House ATTN: Taxation Committee 210 State Street Augusta, Maine

To Taxation Committee Members,

As a full-time resident, this letter has been formally submitted as official testimony in relation to LD 1075 - An Act to Promote Economic Growth Through Increased Film Incentives.

For the State of Maine to better compete with, and benefit from, film production it is essential that a revamped Film Incentives Act passes through the legislature.

Though my career as a producer in Maine has finally become fruitful, local production cycles are inconsistent. Film & television production funding sources traditionally only come from either passion-fueled financiers or conglomerates whose holdings are so immense that tax write-offs don't affect whether projects get greenlit.

These lopsided economics have nearly eliminated an upper tier of potential projects that typically range in the single digit million(s) of dollars.

Because of Maine's small population size and a continual loss of market share as other states have expanded incentives, our ability to compete in the film/television/new media fields has continued to wane in the absence of Maine state incentives. The ability of Maine-based '...makers' to develop, produce and distribute projects at scale is a major obstacle as to why crew members rarely know when and where their next paycheck is coming from.

Contrary to simple inference, LD 1075 is not some governmental 'hand-out' to the film arts community. Moreover, the Act was crafted to add to an already <u>outsized fiscal impact</u> from the Maine Film Community that calls the Pine Tree State home.

Thank you for your time and consider to this Act.

Regards,

Colonial Theatre, Operations Manager

Kyle W. Walton

<u>Discovery Networks</u>, Freelance Producer <u>Maine Film Association</u>, Board

Maine Outdoor Film Festival, Screening Coordinator