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

To the Taxation Committee Members,

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

As a media and film producer I can attest to the lengths that professionals in the field have to go to create opportunities for themselves if they are to survive in this vocation in Maine. Unfortunately, most have to travel to other states that have incentives to make film production not only attractive but viable.

Without incentives outlined in LD 1075 my fear is that there will be a continued *brain drain* that we too often see with professionals choosing to move away from Maine because the opportunities are simply not here. People in film are often entrepreneurs who have other businesses and endeavors in which they pursue to bring in more money for the tax base as well. Like any business professional, if they see better opportunities elsewhere, they will bring their money and ideas to where they can survive economically.

It is a value added proposal as well. From enlisting local carpenters for building sets, to hiring local catering companies, to the small businesses that benefit from a crew working and living in the state during production, there is no doubt having films made in Maine contributes positively to the local economy.

LD 1075 is an opportunity to see Maine's future for what it can be and not what one might fear it will be with another governmental 'hand-out' on the docket. With the focus on the future, it would behoove the members of the committee to consider what Maine will look like if we don't have a plan as our population ages and there isn't a roadmap for what is next.

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Kindly,

From Here to There Production Co. Portland, Maine