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Maine State House

ATTN: Committee on Taxation

c/o Legislative Information Office

Clerk, Benjamin Berry

Dear Taxation Committee Members,

I'm an independent filmmaker and content creator, and have been for most of my life since childhood. I've been a full-time Maine resident for 3 years, after visiting this great state regularly for 9 years prior to moving.

It's time to be able to invite film productions from all over to shoot their projects in Maine with the help of good tax incentives, like other states have. This state has many beautiful qualities that deserve to be on camera more, and the gap between bigger projects taking place here is too large over the years.

These productions that come to the state, should incentives be authorized, should be required to hire a large portion of Maine locals who are excellent in their crafts, instead of bringing with them lots of outsiders in key positions. It takes a village creating even the smallest film or commercial, and Maine creatives need to be part of that village when producers from out-of-town choose this location.

In addition to tax incentives for bigger projects, I think this state needs more funding for local media and arts creation, and not just for students. Many hard-working adults in this industry need funding to film their interesting and unique independent projects, and other states prioritize these films and content with grants and initiatives. It would be great for Maine to do the same, and help local creators realize their ideas.

Respectfully,
Mark J. Parker