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Hello,

My name is Thomas Hildreth. I am a filmmaker currently residing in Los Angeles. In the past twenty years I have made two feature films and one documentary in the state of Maine. As a filmmaker it was a great choice because Maine has so much to offer film and TV in terms of locations and interesting and photogenic locales. Maine locals are curious about film production and eager to work on sets. If Maine had better tax incentives for film and TV production they would put a lot of Maine locals to work on set production and crew year round, not just summer. More visibility of Maine nationwide in film and TV would promote tourism exponentially. I know Film and TV location scouts see Maine as undiscovered country so far in terms of filming locations because to date tax incentives do not exist. If that were to change, an infrastructure of working production crew, set people, lighting, sound, construction, would all be put to work all year round, not to mention all the business that lodging, restaurants, caterers, hardware stores etc. and that income would be generated in state. Maine would greatly benefit from year round Film and TV production. Now it needs better tax incentives to bring production to Maine