

Matt Perez-Mora
Rockland
LD 1493

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO LD 1493 / SP 608
Submitted to the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation

Dear Senator Tipping, Representative Matlack, and distinguished members of the Committee,

My name is Matt Perez-Mora, and I'm writing today in strong opposition to LD 1493, "An Act to Eliminate Tax and Wage Incentives for Visual Media Production Companies."

As a working filmmaker and business owner based in Maine, I've seen firsthand the positive economic and cultural impact the visual media incentives have had on our state. These programs are not handouts—they are investments. When production companies choose Maine, they spend real dollars in local economies, create temporary and permanent jobs, rent equipment and locations, hire crew, and patronize restaurants, hardware stores, hotels, and more.

The repeal of these incentives would send a clear signal to the film and media industry that Maine is closed for business. That message would be not only shortsighted, but economically damaging. The jobs created by visual media projects—especially for young creatives hoping to build careers without leaving Maine—are meaningful and often career-launching. This bill would gut one of the few structures in place that actually encourages that kind of creative economy development.

Moreover, film and media productions help tell Maine's story. They showcase our natural beauty, small towns, and local culture in a way that no ad campaign could replicate. That exposure drives tourism, which supports another core industry in our state.

I urge this committee to consider the long-term value of keeping Maine competitive in a growing sector. Rather than eliminating these incentives, we should be improving them—making them more accessible, more transparent, and more accountable. But getting rid of them entirely would be a step backwards.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Matt Perez-Mora
Rockland, ME
MPM Productions LLC