



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

BILL: SB 452 - Income Tax - Film Production Activity Tax Credit - Alterations

SPONSOR: Senators Griffith, *et al.*

HEARING DATE: February 22, 2023

COMMITTEE: Budget and Taxation

CONTACT: Intergovernmental Affairs Office, 301-780-8411

POSITION: SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS

The Office of the Prince George's County Executive **SUPPORTS SB 452 - Income Tax - Film Production Activity Tax Credit - Alterations** which alters the film production activity tax credit by (1) expanding eligible film productions to include a documentary or a talk, reality, or game show; (2) expanding eligible costs to include specified salaries, wages, or other compensation; (3) increasing the amount of eligible costs that qualify for a tax credit certificate by three percentage points; and (4) increasing the annual amount of credits the Department of Commerce may award to \$25.0 million in fiscal 2024 and to \$50.0 million annually thereafter.

Prince George's County has a growing and vibrant film community through various initiatives, including the Prince George's Film Office Film Grant Program, which awards up to \$45,000 per production/project to support filmmakers and digital visual creatives in telling their stories and support a variety of production projects. Increasing the amount of credits that can be awarded for film productions will help these local efforts to support the County's film community.

We request that the current bill be amended to include under covered film production activity "live-to-tape" non-sporting productions. This would enable the County to host and attract large-scale award shows and other live-to-tape events that Maryland currently does not attract, even from filmmakers and production companies located in Maryland. One such event is the annual Urban One Honors hosted by TV One, which had considered having the event at the MGM National Harbor but declined due to the cost. This would enable the state and county to retain those jobs, resources and experiences.

For the reasons stated above, the Office of the Prince George's County Executive **SUPPORTS Senate Bill 452 WITH AMENDMENTS** and asks for a **FAVORABLE** report.