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March 30, 2023

Chair Atterbeary and Members of the
House Ways and Means Committee
6 Bladen Street, Room 131
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB452- SUPPORT WTH AMENDMENTS

Dear Chair Atterbeary and Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

The Maryland Film Industry Coalition supports SB452 and respectfully requests that the bill be amended to provide \$25M in FY24.

Providing a consistent amount in upcoming years starting with FY24 will be a start to enhancing an industry that immediately puts money back into the state’s coffers, economy and is a job creator. Having a stable, predictable program will allow industry decision makers to plan ahead when considering locations for current and future projects and will let them know that Maryland is serious about growing the industry. Increasing the amount to \$25M in FY24 will do that.

When looking at programs around the country, a few examples of annual amounts are- Pennsylvania \$100M, New Jersey \$100M, New York, \$420M (with proposed legislation to increase to \$700M), North Carolina \$31M, Ohio \$40M, Louisiana \$180M, New Mexico \$110M, Kentucky \$75M and uncapped programs in Georgia, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut and West Virginia.

This increase in FY24 to \$25M will jumpstart the program now and further studies will be welcome from the council created within this legislation, of which MFIC requests to be a member of.

Thank you for your consideration, time and for a favorable report with the amended amount.

Sincerely,

Debra Donaldson Dorsey
Maryland Film Industry Coalition