

## Mid Atlantic Studio Mechanics and Broadcast Technicians

### I.A.T.S.E. Local 487

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March 30, 2023  
House Ways and Means Committee  
SB 452 - Income Tax - Film Production Activity Credit - Alterations

#### SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT

Senate Bill 452 will bring hundreds of well-paying jobs as well as help create new opportunities for those who wish to begin their career in the Film and Television industry here in the State of Maryland.

Currently, in the Bill the first year is funded at the previous cap of \$12 million for FY24 meaning there is not enough in the program to bring multiple jobs here. **We respectfully ask that you increase the first year amount to between \$15 million and \$20 million to bring multiple productions to MD.** With the expanded definition of what type of work qualifies under the Bill, it will deplete the current amount which could preclude larger productions from considering Maryland as a destination. The subsequent years at \$25 million along with the creation of the Entertainment Council we fully support.

As we have made you aware, many productions chose to go to States with more robust production incentives. When Film or Television production is here thousands of Marylanders are working, earning, and spending money in their communities and receiving health and retirement benefits for their families. Without the funding increase, hundreds of jobs will be lost to States like Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, Georgia, and elsewhere. Several Legislatures are actively working to increase the incentives they already have to bring additional work to their State.

A production can create upwards of 500 jobs for crew and innumerable opportunities for hundreds of local actors. A single production can mean over \$8 million in total wages paid to Maryland residents and over \$2 million in health and retirement benefits, an amount that only includes Motion Picture Technicians; this does not include Actors, production staff, or Teamsters so the overall impact is significant.

We ask you to support the working men, women, and kin of Maryland who rely upon the Motion Picture and Television industry for making a living for themselves and their families. **This is about job creation and job retention. This is about health and retirement benefits for adults and children.**

**NOT A SINGLE DOLLAR GOES OUT UNTIL A THOROUGH AUDIT OF ALL QUALIFIED MARYLAND EXPENDITURES HAS BEEN COMPLETED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.**

Senate Bill 452 will allow this industry to grow and create good jobs here in Maryland and we ask that you **SUPPORT** the Bill with amendments and give it a **FAVORABLE REPORT.**

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