

SENATE BILL 907

C8

3lr2987

By: **Senator Salling**

Introduced and read first time: February 15, 2023

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Film Office – Entertainment and Film Funding Grant Program –**
3 **Establishment**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Entertainment and Film Funding Grant Program
5 within the Maryland Film Office; requiring the Governor to include a certain
6 appropriation each fiscal year to the Office to award grants for the Program; and
7 generally relating to the Entertainment and Film Funding Grant Program.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

9 Article – Economic Development

10 Section 4–301

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

13 BY adding to

14 Article – Economic Development

15 Section 4–306

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

19 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

20 **Article – Economic Development**

21 4–301.

22 In this subtitle, “Office” means the Maryland Film Office.

23 **4–306.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
2 **INDICATED.**

3 **(2) “FILM PRODUCTION ACTIVITY” MEANS THE PRODUCTION OF A**
4 **FILM OR VIDEO PROJECT THAT IS INTENDED FOR COMMERCIAL DISTRIBUTION,**
5 **INCLUDING:**

6 **(I) A FEATURE FILM;**

7 **(II) A TELEVISION PROJECT;**

8 **(III) A COMMERCIAL;**

9 **(IV) A MUSIC VIDEO; AND**

10 **(V) A DIGITAL ANIMATION PROJECT.**

11 **(3) “PROGRAM” MEANS THE ENTERTAINMENT AND FILM FUNDING**
12 **GRANT PROGRAM.**

13 **(4) “QUALIFYING PRODUCTION ENTITY” MEANS AN ENTITY THAT IS**
14 **PRODUCING:**

15 **(I) A THEATRICAL PRODUCTION IN THE STATE; OR**

16 **(II) A FILM PRODUCTION ACTIVITY IN THE STATE.**

17 **(5) “THEATRICAL PRODUCTION” MEANS A LIVE STAGE THEATRICAL**
18 **PRODUCTION THAT IS CURRENTLY PERFORMING IN THE STATE.**

19 **(B) THERE IS AN ENTERTAINMENT AND FILM FUNDING GRANT PROGRAM**
20 **IN THE OFFICE.**

21 **(C) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO**
22 **QUALIFYING PRODUCTION ENTITIES TO ASSIST WITH THE PRODUCTION COSTS OF**
23 **ENTERTAINMENT AND FILM PROJECTS IN THE STATE.**

24 **(D) (1) TO APPLY FOR A GRANT UNDER THIS SECTION, A QUALIFYING**
25 **PRODUCTION ENTITY SHALL SUBMIT TO THE OFFICE:**

26 **(I) A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT;**

1 **(II) AN ITEMIZATION OF KNOWN AND ESTIMATED COSTS;**

2 **(III) THE TOTAL INVESTMENT REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE**
3 **PROJECT; AND**

4 **(IV) ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION THAT THE OFFICE**
5 **REQUESTS.**

6 **(2) A GRANT AWARDED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY NOT EXCEED**
7 **\$200,000 FOR ONE PROJECT.**

8 **(3) A GRANT AWARDED UNDER THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE USED FOR**
9 **A PROJECT INVOLVING PORNOGRAPHY OR SEXUALLY EXPLICIT CONTENT.**

10 **(E) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025, AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE**
11 **GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION OF**
12 **\$5,000,000 TO THE OFFICE TO AWARD GRANTS FOR THE PROGRAM.**

13 **(F) THE OFFICE SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO:**

14 **(1) IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION; AND**

15 **(2) SPECIFY CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES FOR APPLICATION FOR,**
16 **APPROVAL OF, AND AWARD OF GRANTS AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS SECTION.**

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
18 1, 2023.