

AMBLIN

PARTNERS

Chair Guy Guzzone and Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Miller State Office Building, 3 West Wing
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401
RE: SB718- SUPPORT

February 19, 2020

Dear Chair Guzzone and the Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee,

My name is Shelly Strong and I am the Head of Physical Production at Amblin Partners, a division of Dreamworks Pictures. I am responsible for determining where we will shoot our movies as well as working closely with local tax and state film commissions.

I am from Hagerstown, Maryland and graduated from Towson University. I always look to Maryland as a setting for our projects and know firsthand what amazing locations Maryland has to offer as well as a good crew and support system. Unfortunately, whenever I'm ready to bring a movie home, I'm told that the tax credits are tapped out. In recent years I was ready to bring "The Post," and Ron Howards', "Larry" to Maryland, but unfortunately had to shoot elsewhere.

When choosing a location, production costs are the most important factor in the decision-making process. Without a stable, predictable incentive program, Maryland will continue to lose the jobs and economic stimulus that the film industry brings to a region that would largely benefit from more productions shooting there.

I therefore respectfully urge you to pass SB718 which will increase the amount of available tax credits and bring more jobs and money to Maryland!

Sincerely,



Shelly Strong
Executive Vice President
Production