

## Mid Atlantic Studio Mechanics and Broadcast Technicians

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

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Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

SB 718 - Income Tax - Film Production Activity Credit - Alterations

### SUPPORT

This Bill will keep good jobs here and create new ones in the State of Maryland by having enough in the program to allow for multiple productions over the course of the year. It also brings pride, prestige and an influx of money that would not otherwise be spent here. Money that is spent again and again with Maryland companies purchasing goods and services, not just related to a particular project but by individual Marylanders who work on and benefit from these productions.

When we have appeared before legislative committees we have always spoken of good wages and health and retirement benefits that result from this program. Thousands of Marylanders are working, earning and spending money in their communities and receiving health and retirement benefits for their families. Without this Bill hundreds of jobs will be lost to States like Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, Georgia and elsewhere.

As in any business, reputation is everything and the technicians, crew and talent here in Maryland have established themselves as amongst the best in the world. Any given production can create upwards 500 jobs for crew and innumerable opportunities for hundreds of local actors. A single production can mean over \$3 million in total wages paid to Maryland residents and over \$1.5 million in health and retirement benefits and this amount only includes Motion Picture Technicians; Actors, production staff and Teamsters benefit as well.

This isn't about supporting Corporations or celebrities - This is about supporting the working men and women of Maryland who rely upon the Motion Picture and Television industry to support themselves and their families. This is about job creation and job retention. This is about health and retirement benefits for adults and children. Each production leaves behind millions of dollars in the State. It creates jobs; not just those created specifically on the production but those peripheral jobs in businesses that benefit from these productions purchasing goods and services here in Maryland. Thousands of lives will be affected for the better by moving this program forward and Senate Bill 718 will help thousands more by increasing the number of productions that would be able to take advantage of the program while keeping all the reporting requirements in place - NOT A SINGLE DOLLAR GOES OUT UNTIL AN AUDIT OF ALL QUALIFIED MARYLAND EXPENDITURES HAS BEEN COMPLETED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

Senate Bill 718 will allow this Industry to continue to grow and create good jobs here in Maryland and Local 487, IATSE asks that you support the Bill.

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