



February 7, 2020

Chair Anne Kaiser and Members of the Ways and Means Committee
131 House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB565 OPPOSE

Dear Chair Kaiser and Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

Our small business, located in Maryland, relies heavily on the local film industry to continue our growth and allow us to employ our staff. We insure film productions that come to the State, taking advantage of the credits provided by State Tax Credits program. Studies have shown that \$3 of income are generated by every \$1 of credits under that program. We have seen and worked with companies that range from caterers to hotels that have obtained business due to the Film industry and the Tax credits available.

This program is unique in that the money is only paid out after the taxes have been generated and audited. This is not a "spend and hope" program, but one that can show and guarantee successful results. Without this program, there will be no job creation for films and we will have missed an opportunity to bring jobs to the State on a guaranteed basis.

Please stop Bill HB565, as we need to show a commitment to the Film industry in Maryland to the employers that want to bring jobs to our State. This bill destroys that growth and hurts many Maryland businesses, like my own.

Sincerely,

Robert B. Middleton
Director/Owner
Arts Insurance Program
A Division of Maury, Donnelly and Parr, Inc.