



ALLEGANY COUNTY, MARYLAND

The Board of County Commissioners

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February 28, 2022

The Honorable Vanessa E. Atterbeary, Chairman
Ways & Means Committee
House Office Building
Room 131
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB1144 – Income Tax – Film Production Activity Tax Credit – Filming Locations

Dear Chairman Atterbeary and Members of the Ways & Means Committee:

Allegany County Tourism urges your support of HB1144, requiring the Secretary of Commerce to make available for film production activities in Allegany, Caroline, Dorchester, Garrett, Kent, Prince George's, Somerset, Washington, or Wicomico counties, 20% of the total amount of tax credits that the Secretary may approve in a fiscal year.

The Film Production Activity Tax Credit program is designed to strengthen the film production industry in Maryland and has a proven record of providing a positive impact on the State's economy. The legislation secured the first four seasons of the award-winning HBO series *Veep*, the groundbreaking Netflix series *House of Cards*, as well as many independent films, generating an economic impact in the State of \$900 million.

Allegany County, Maryland, was approached with an opportunity in 2021 to work with a major streaming service and film producer, looking at our county as the set location for filming a TV series. Ultimately, given our distance from the State's studio zone and allocation of the state film credits, the production had to make fiscal decisions that relocated the filming series from Allegany County, Maryland, to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Please vote favorably on HB1144 to support the film and tourism industries in Maryland.

Sincerely,

Jacob C. Shade
President