



Department of Economic and Tourism Development

February 28, 2022

The Honorable Vanessa E. Atterbeary
Chair, Ways and Means Committee
131 Taylor House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: SB664/HB1144 – Income Tax – Film Production Activity Tax Credit – Filming Locations

Dear Delegate Atterbeary:

Kent County Economic and Tourism Development supports Senate Bill 664/House Bill 1144 that would set aside 20% of the tax credit amount for Maryland Small or Independent Film entities for fiscal year 2023 and each fiscal year thereafter in Allengany, Caroline, Dorchester, Garrett, Kent, Prince George's, Somerset, Washington, or Wicomico Counties.

These counties have much to offer filmmakers. Tourism is key to stimulating local economies, film-induced tourism serves to attract visitors inspired by the beautiful sceneries of locations exposed in cinema and stories linked to those locations. Studies have shown that a film can have a powerful impact on a destination's image and the decision to travel, making an important contribution to tourism.

Senate Bill 664/House Bill 1144 will have a profound impact on Kent County as it would entice and encourage diversity as well as provide options for film entities looking for authentic rural character, historic landscapes, and pristine waterfront views. The ability to attract filmmakers through the use of tax credits would bolster economic development.

Given the foregoing, Kent County Economic Development respectfully requests a favorable report on Senate Bill 664/House Bill 1144.

Sincerely,

Jamie Williams, CEcD
Director

cc: The County Commissioners of Kent County
Senator Stephen S. Hershey
Delegate Jay A. Jacobs
Delegate Steven J. Arentz
Delegate Jefferson L. Ghrist