## **Nicole Powell**

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Chair Atterbeary and Members of the House Ways and Means Committee 6 Bladen Street, Room 131 Annapolis, MD 21401

## RE: HB270-SUPPORT

Dear Chair Atterbeary and Members of the House Ways and Means Committee,

This letter is in full support of House Bill 270 that calls for an increase of the Film Production Activity Tax Credit to \$50 million by 2025 and each fiscal year thereafter. I agree with the MD Film Industry Coalition and the Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts that it is imperative to increase the tax credit to attract more film and television productions to Maryland. I also stand in solidarity with my union brothers and sisters of I.A.T.S.E. Local 487 to share with you how the tax credit increase directly impacts our lives and careers.

I am a Baltimore native and a product of the Baltimore City school system. After graduating from the Baltimore Polytechnic Institute, completing an undergraduate degree at University of MD at College Park, I obtained my Masters Degree in Film & Media at Johns Hopkins in 2019. It has been a tremendous blessing to work on four major productions that include; The Spook Who Sat By The Door Pilot, Black and Missing docuseries, HBO's We Own This City and Paramount's Lioness after graduation.

In my role as a Locations Coordinator, I have been able to hire students from Morgan State, Mica, JHU & Towson University. I have also been able to hire local companies and pay homeowners that support the efforts of film production in Maryland. Unfortunately, if we don't have a viable pipeline of film and tv production, people will have to move to other states in order to continue to work in the Media industry. Four of my last assistants have recently moved to Atlanta to work.

Please consider passing House Bill 270 in order to help create a sustainable Film & TV Industry here in Maryland.

Sincerely,

**Nicole Powell**