



March 9, 2023

Representative Hodan Hassan, Chair
House Economic Development Finance and Policy Committee
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Representative Hassan & Members,

We're writing to express the Minnesota AFL-CIO's support for HF 2059, extending and expanding the film production tax credit. For years, the film and television industry has continually to looked for shooting locations outside Hollywood, both for creative and cost-based reasons. When productions come to a location, they bring union-wage work for local TV/film professionals and significant economic activity to the host community.

Since the pilot film production tax credit came into effect fifteen months ago, the results have been remarkable. When even modest tax incentives are available, producers are choosing Minnesota to host their productions. Nine productions already took advantage of the credit – employing 748 Minnesotans, generating \$7.8 million in wages, \$17 million in local spending, and booking more than 2,000 hotel room nights.

By making a \$25 million investment to expand the film production tax credit, we will generate up to \$100 million in new economic activity, creating more high wage union jobs and strengthening our communities' economic activity. By eliminating the credit's sunset, even larger productions that begin scouting locations long before the director says "action" will put Minnesota on their radar.

On behalf of the working people in our state, we urge you to pass HF 2059 and invest in Minnesota jobs.

Sincerely,

Bernie Burnham
President

Brad Lehto
Secretary-Treasurer

Melissa Hysing
Legislative Director

