

SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA AREA LABOR COUNCIL

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR - CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

2443 CLARE LANE NE #200, ROCHESTER, MN 55906 www.semnalc.org

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Dear Minnesota Legislators,

Minnesota was once in the top five states for film and TV production, but that changed in the early 2000s when the state no longer supported a competitive incentive for movies, television shows, and other productions to be made here. The transferable film tax credit incentive bill proposed this legislative session is good policy that will once again make Minnesota competitive in this industry.

The transferable film tax credit incentive bill does not require a monetary appropriation. Rather, it would establish a 25% tax credit capped at \$25 million over 10 years. Production companies utilizing the tax credit would still pay 75% of taxes, and that 75% of something is better than 100% of nothing.

33 states have some form of production incentive already and have benefited from the significant economic activity this incentive generates. Every \$1 of tax credits issued means more than \$4 of economic activity. Per the Motion Picture Association of America, up to \$250,000 a day can be introduced into local economies when a film shoots on location.

This bill would create thousands of jobs in Minnesota and generate millions of dollars in economic development over the next decade across a wide range of industries – construction, transportation, hospitality, tourism, etc.

This transferable film tax credit incentive bill is a win-win-win for workers, businesses, and government that should be enacted this year to ensure jobs are created and money is spent in Minnesota throughout the next decade, both by local businesses and out-of-state businesses that will be incentivized to invest here.

There is a both huge backlog of productions that have been delayed due to the pandemic and new projects on the horizon. Our state needs to act now to be ready to compete for that business and work. We urge you to co-sponsor and support the transferable film tax credit incentive bill.

In unity and solidarity,

Pommella Wegmann

President Financial-Recording Secretary

The Southeast Minnesota Area Labor Council, AFL-CIO is the united labor movement of 40,000 union members in Blue Earth, Dodge, Faribault, Fillmore, Goodhue, Houston, Le Sueur, Mower, Nicollet, Olmsted, Rice, Steele, Wabasha, Waseca, and Winona counties. We are dedicated to improving the lives of all working families, and we strive daily to dismantle systems of oppression. We affirm the freedom of collective bargaining and believe in the dignity of work for all – regardless of race, ethnicity, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, disability, economic class, education level, or immigration status.