

February 9, 2011

939 WEST 5TH AVENUE, ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501
PHONE (907) 276-6000

SALES	FAX (907) 343-2207
CATERING	FAX (907) 343-2211
RESERVATIONS	FAX (907) 343-2298
ACCOUNTING OFFICE	FAX (907) 343-2262

Senator Johnny Ellis
Chair Senate Rules Committee
State Capitol, 119
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Re: Senate Bill 23 Film Production Tax Credit

Dear Senator Ellis:

On behalf of The Hotel Captain Cook, I would like to offer our support for Senate Bill 23, the extension of the Alaska Film Production Tax Incentive Program. Since its inception in 2008 the Film Production Tax incentive program has created jobs for Alaskan and economic opportunities for Alaska businesses small and large. Film and television projects offer invaluable marketing and promotion for Alaska tourism, products and businesses. Continuing and extending this program offers a clear signal to the multi-billion dollar film and television industry that Alaska is open for business.

The fact is financial incentives have changed the way filming decisions are made. Alaska faces aggressive and long established film incentives from provincial and federal governments in Canada. 45 other states currently have a program of some type, as they understand the economic benefits that this industry can bring to our businesses and communities.

We support the extension of the Alaska Film Production Tax Incentive program for ten years with \$100 million available in incentives during the first five years and \$100 million in incentives for the final five years. Senate Bill 23 will continue the economic diversification and economic development success of the film tax incentives while also providing a clear signal that offers Alaska businesses the opportunity to better plan for and capitalize on Alaska's newest multi-million dollar industry.

For all of these reasons, The Hotel Captain Cook fully supports the Film Credit Tax Credit Bill and thanks the Alaska State Legislature for working towards a more prosperous Alaska.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Walter J. Hickel Jr.".

Walter J. Hickel Jr.
Chairman and C.E.O.



FAIRBANKS
Economic Development
C O R P O R A T I O N

301 Cushman St., Suite 301, Fairbanks, AK 99701

February 9, 2011

Re: Support for SB 23/HB 67

Representative Bob Herron
Representative Chris Tuck
Senator Johnny Ellis
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Re: HB 67/SB 23-Extension of AK Film Production Incentive Program

The Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation supports SB 23/HB67 and your efforts to continue to diversify the economy by extending the AK Film Production Incentive Program. Fairbanks has attracted the interest of producers over the years, with projects ranging from INTO THE WILD to documentaries and commercials. It is our hope that by extending current film incentives, we will have the opportunity to enjoy the positive economic impacts experienced in other areas of the state that secured locations for studio productions.

We understand that this is still a fledgling industry for Alaska. The Dept. of Commerce, Community and Economic Development are currently developing a full-scale marketing plan and strategy in under discussion for possible public-private marketing opportunities at film-related venues in the future.

Our members come from all areas of the business sector in Fairbanks and can provide many of the services needed to support a film production. In addition, the impact on tourism-related businesses as an area serves as a location for a film production is well documented.

We support the economic development brought about by the current film incentive program. By extending and expanding the program, Alaskans can continue to benefit from new jobs and the business opportunities that come with welcoming this multi-million dollar industry to our state.

Sincerely,

Jim Dodson
President & CEO
Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation

Cc: FBX delegation



Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference

3300 Arctic Boulevard, Suite 203 Anchorage, AK 99503 p: 907.562.7380 www.swamc.org

Alaska Peninsula
Aleutian Chain
Bristol Bay
Kodiak Island
Pribilof Islands

February 14, 2011

Senator Johnny Ellis
State Capitol, Rm. 119
Juneau, AK 99801

SUPPORT OF SB 23: Alaska Film Incentive Program Extension

Dear Senator Ellis,

At its recent monthly meeting, the Board of Directors of the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (SWAMC) voted its support in favor of SB 23 to extend the Alaska Film Incentive Program. The Board feels that this program has offered many economic benefits to the residents of Alaska, and it has the potential to do more.

With estimates ranging from \$2-3 delivered to local economies for every dollar spent by the film industry, that represents a good return on investment for Alaskans, especially in some of the more rural and economically challenged areas of the state.

We hope to see the level of film activity increase in Alaska, and SWAMC is heartened that a portion of the tax credit program is geared toward spurring more economic development in our rural areas. We hope the bill sponsors and those within the Alaska Film Office will continue to encourage more filming and production in rural Alaska, where our scenery is unmatched.

SWAMC's Board of Directors feel that an extension of the program may develop the certainty and help spur the necessary infrastructure for the film industry to continue to prosper in the state. We must remember, however, that this program is about more than films, and several types of productions qualify for the incentive that could bring more dollars into all areas of Alaska.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and thank you for introducing this legislation.

Sincerely,
SOUTHWEST ALASKA MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy Varner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Andy Varner
Executive Director



We try harder.®

Alaska Rent A Car, Inc.

Avis System Licensee
P.O. Box 190028
Anchorage, Alaska 99519-0028

Tel: (907) 243-4700
Fax: (907) 249-8247
E-mail: avis@avisalaska.com

February 11, 2011

Senator Johnny Ellis
Chair Senate Rules Committee
State Capital, 119
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: SB 23 Film Production Tax Credit

Dear Senator Ellis:

We are writing to express our support for Senate Bill 23, the extension of the Film Production Tax Credit. We applaud your efforts for not only this current effort but also for the groundbreaking work you accomplished to get the original legislation in place.

Alaska Rent A Car, Inc (Avis) and our 110 statewide employees benefit from the film production companies that bring their film/commercial shoots to Alaska. We are just a small example of the various types of businesses that benefit from the film industry.

One point not to be overlooked is the additional revenues that come into the state and various municipalities from similar organizations as Avis. The revenue generated by the 10% State Vehicle Rental Tax is collected by all car rental companies and passed along to the State of Alaska. Various municipal vehicle rental taxes/hotel bed tax/general sales taxes are also collected by Avis and others and used to support local governments and their citizens. We can all grasp the idea that productions coming to the state spend money in the state, and businesses enjoy this influx of new business...but we must also remind others that taxes collected are an economic boon to various governmental bodies.

Alaska has always strived to diversify its base economy. The long-term commitment to the film industry is one such tool the state can use. A long-term commitment will drive further needed investment by the private sector, create employment, create new or strengthen existing businesses, and lead to further interest in Alaska (business and tourism); all which means great things for this state.

Again, we applaud your efforts to bring a new industry to Alaska. The employee owners of Alaska Rent A Car, Inc. are fully behind the efforts of the Alaska State Legislature to pass SB 23.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Zimmerman", written over a circular stamp or seal.

Gary Zimmerman
General Manager



RSM McGladrey Network
An Independently Owned Member

Offices in Anchorage & Kenai

February 15, 2011

Senator Johnny Ellis
Chair Senate Rules Committee
State Capitol, 119
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: Senate Bill 23 Film Production Tax Credit

Dear Senator Ellis:

Mikunda Cottrell would like to offer our support for Senate Bill 23, the extension of the Alaska Film Production Tax Incentive Program. Since its inception in 2008 the Film Production Tax Incentive program has created jobs for Alaskans and economic opportunities for Alaska businesses small and large. Film and television projects offer invaluable marketing and promotion for Alaska tourism, products, and businesses. Continuing and extending this program offers a clear signal to the multi-billion dollar film and television industry that Alaska is open for business.

The fact is, financial incentives have changed the way filming decisions are made. Alaska faces aggressive and long established film incentives from provincial and federal governments in Canada. 45 other states currently have a program of some type as they understand the economic benefits that this industry can bring to our businesses and communities.

Mikunda Cottrell supports the extension of the Alaska Film Production Tax Incentive program for ten years with \$100 million available in incentives during the first five years and \$100 million in incentives for the final five years. Senate Bill 23 will continue the economic diversification and economic development success of the film tax incentives while also providing a clear signal that offers Alaska businesses the opportunity to better plan for and capitalize on Alaska's newest multi-million dollar industry.

For all of these reasons, Mikunda Cottrell fully supports the Film Credit Tax Credit Bill and would like to thank the Alaska State Legislature for working towards a more prosperous Alaska.

Sincerely,

Jim Hasle, CPA, President and Managing Shareholder
Mikunda, Cottrell & Co.



February 11, 2011

Senator Johnny Ellis
Chair, Senate Rules Committee
State Capitol, 119
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Film Incentive Credit SB23/HB67

Dear Senator Ellis:

The Juneau Convention & Visitors Bureau (JCVB) supports SB23/HB67. We understand the importance of creating jobs and diversifying the economy for Alaska and for Alaskans.

As a destination marketing organization with over 275 business members, we appreciate the economic impact that the visitor industry (both leisure and business) brings to our community. As has been demonstrated with "Everybody Loves Whales," the film industry is an economic stimulator that relies heavily on the hospitality industry and brings much-needed business to hotels, restaurants, catering, and transportation services.

As stated in the bill, the film incentive program creates transferable tax credits for eligible corporate tax payers. The subsequent tax relief this brings to a variety of industries is another form of economic stimulus for our state.

We support the objective of SB23/HB67 to make Alaska more competitive in attracting film production business, to create new jobs and generate business opportunities.

Sincerely,

Lorene Palmer

Lorene Palmer
President/CEO

Juneau Convention & Visitors Bureau
One Sealaska Plaza, Ste. 305
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 586-1737



February 9, 2011

The Honorable Johnny Ellis
Chair, Senate Rules Committee
State Capitol, 119
Juneau, Alaska 99801

REAL ESTATE DEPARTMENT

TEL 907.265.2670

FAX 907.265.2450

Re: Senate Bill 23 – Alaska Film Production Incentive Program Extension

Dear Senator Ellis:

The Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC) supports Senate Bill 23, which extends the Alaska Film Production Tax Incentive Program. During 2010, ARRC worked with the Alaska Film Office by offering ARRC property on very short notice because the initial filming site for the film "Everybody Loves Whales" fell through. Unless a new site was found, the filming would have been moved to Canada.

The film company not only used ARRC property for the primary "Barrow" scene, which involved extensive development and construction, it also used our newly renovated Historic Freight Shed for several film sets, feeding the crew, make-up and wardrobe. ARRC's property provided a perfect venue for this film. Numerous Alaskans were put to work in the construction activity in addition to the actors. Local workers were involved in building sets, providing equipment rentals, transportation and meals. Local businesses benefited from the increased level of dollars spent in the community. It was a group effort and everyone worked hard to welcome the film industry. I believe this effort helped to put Alaska on the map as a state that has the ability to support the film industry.

During the same period, the filming of "Ghost Visions" used ARRC property for a portion of a feature film. This film also used the property of an ARRC tenant, where several segments of the movie were filmed.

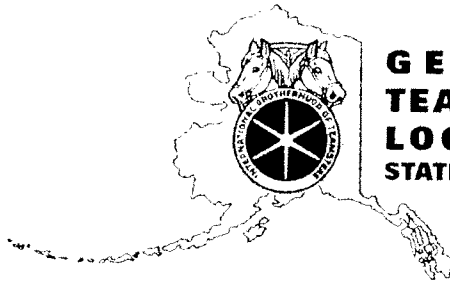
Film and television projects offer invaluable marketing and promotion for Alaska tourism, products and businesses. Continuing and extending this program offers a clear signal to the multi-billion dollar film and television industry that Alaska is open for business.

For all of these reasons, ARRC fully supports the Film Credit Tax Credit Bill and thanks the Alaska State Legislature for working to develop a new industry in Alaska.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "James W. Kubitz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being particularly prominent.

James W. Kubitz
Vice President, Real Estate and Facilities



**GENERAL
TEAMSTERS
LOCAL 959
STATE OF ALASKA**

Affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters
Rick Boyles, Secretary-Treasurer
520 E. 34th Ave., Suite 102, Anchorage, Alaska 99503
Phone (907) 565-8122 • Fax (907) 565-8199

February 14, 2011

Senator Johnny Ellis
Chair, Senate Rules Committee
State Capitol, 119
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: SB 23 Alaska Film Incentive Program Extension

Dear Senator Ellis:

On behalf of our approximately 6000 Teamster members, I would like to thank you for your proactive approach to incentivizing the Alaska Film Industry. Your legislation, which was passed overwhelmingly by the legislature in 2008, has been a success from the onset.

In March 2008, prior to the passage and implementation of SB 230, Paramount Studios-DreamWorks produced some background shots for a Star Trek movie. The shoot lasted approximately one week and employed five of our members, who worked approximately 190 man-hours.

Since the passage of the tax incentive, we have seen a substantial increase in the number of jobs in the film industry. One of the larger productions, "Everybody Loves Whales", employed at peak approximately forty Teamster members who worked approximately 20,000 man-hours. Many of these workers earned nearly \$35,000 each for their work over a three to four month period. We continue to have Teamsters employed on other shoots as well.

I would also like to note that the film incentive program has not just increased jobs for union members, but non-union workers as well. We have found that some of the smaller productions have not been signatory to a labor agreement, but they also

Senator Johnny Ellis
February 14, 2011
Page 2

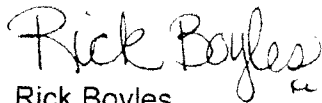
generate dollars into our economy- Alaskans working in Alaska on Alaskan jobs.

We would note, however, that training workers in this field of industry would assist in assuring that more of the technical jobs are done by Alaskans. For example, in addition to van drivers, cast drivers, steak beds, and generator trucks, there are also set dressers, grips, set electricians, production crews, construction crews, and special effects teams, to name a few. I am currently working with our Training Trust director and industry representatives to focus our program specifically toward some of the film industry needs, and I am sure others are as well. Working together to assure a well-rounded training program will go far in assuring that Alaskan workers with new skills will be working in this new and exciting industry in our state.

In summary, we will assist where necessary in support SB 23. This legislation is an excellent example of an incentive program that has increased the number of Alaskan jobs and improved our overall economy in a very brief period of time. Your approval of the continuation can only further improve those numbers and the ongoing economic growth of our state.

Sincerely,

GENERAL TEAMSTERS LOCAL 959



Rick Boyles
Secretary-Treasurer

c: Barbara Huff Tuckness, President, Teamsters Local 959

via facsimile to 907-465-2529



Dear Senator Ellis,

Thank you for sponsoring Senate Bill 23/House Bill 67. We are in full support of the Film Tax Incentive legislation. We were one of the many fortunate businesses to benefit from film crews coming to Alaska this past year. Besides the obvious tourism advantage, we know that the film crews spent huge sums of money in Alaska. We had some folks come to take tours and buy merchandise. Beyond the direct spending in our state, the exposure Alaska receives is truly priceless. We have gotten messages expressing awe from all over the world with many people deciding to finally make that "Dream Trip" to Alaska.

We appreciate your being involved in perpetuating this CLEAN, RENEWABLE Resource development.

Happy Trails,
Kathy Chapoton and Martin Buser



February 15, 2011

Senator Johnny Ellis
Chair Senate Rules Committee
State Capitol, 119
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Senate Bill 23 Film Production Tax Credit

Dear Senator Ellis:

On behalf of the ALASKA FILM GROUP and our statewide membership, I would like to offer our support for Senate Bill 23, extending the Alaska Film Tax Credit Incentive Program for ten years.

Since its inception in 2008, Alaskan jobs in the film industry have increased and Alaska businesses have seen their bottom lines improve. In addition, film and television projects to our state offer invaluable marketing and promotion for Alaska tourism....all contributing factors to the diversification of Alaska's economy.

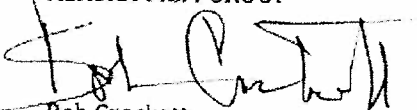
Many ALASKA FILM GROUP crewmembers worked on two recent feature films, "Everybody Loves Whales" and "Ghost Vision". They traveled from Fairbanks, Homer, Juneau, Girdwood, Kenai and Palmer to participate. Vendor members from rental car companies, hotels, shipping companies to film rental houses were contracted to provide services. Seeing this unfold from our efforts leading up to passage of SB230 in 2008 to where we are now has been truly amazing. Our membership has grown nearly 40% from enactment in 2008 to present day.

Forty-five other states currently have incentive programs of some type in place; demonstrating recognition by those states of the economic benefit this industry offers its labor force, area businesses and communities. Internationally, we face stiff competition from provincial and Federal Governments in Canada and around the globe. In order to remain competitive in this global industry Alaska needs to send a clear message.

We support the extension of the Alaska Film Production Tax Credit program for 10 years with \$100 million available in incentives during the first five years and \$100 million available in the final five years. This allows Producers to plan with expectations the program will still be in place; and for local business investors interested in building infrastructure to be assured they can amortize their investment over a period of time.

The ALASKA FILM GROUP fully supports the Film Tax Credit Bill and sincerely thanks the Alaska State Legislature for creating a program that benefits all Alaskans.

Sincerely,
ALASKA FILM GROUP



Bob Crockett
President

Senator Johnny Ellis
Chair Senate Rules Committee
State Capitol, 119
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

15 February 2011

RE: Senate Bill 23 Film Production Tax Credit

Dear Senator Ellis:

On behalf of **Ascending Path and Glacier Productions LLC**, I would like to offer our support for Senate Bill 23, the extension of the Alaska Film Production Tax Incentive Program.

As a board member of the Alaska Film Group and the owner of a company which received a lucrative contract with Icebreaker Films/"Everybody Loves Whales", I personally experienced the benefit of this valuable incentive program. In 2010 my wife and I put 3 Alaskan employees on salary to run our small tourism business while she and I dedicated our time to *Whales*.

Because of the Film Incentive Program, my small Alaskan company was able to negotiate a licensing agreement with a LA based entertainment services company so Alaska can provide the accounting and payroll services that Hollywood producers are accustomed. Alaska has some growing pains in order to become a financially sustainable location for feature films, but I have confidence in the private sectors ability to accommodate, if the State commits to this Incentive.

Since its inception in 2008, the Film Production Tax Incentive program has created jobs for Alaskans and economic opportunities for Alaska businesses small and large. Film and television projects offer invaluable marketing and promotion for Alaska tourism, products and businesses. Continuing and extending this program offers a clear signal to the multi-billion dollar film and television industry that Alaska is open for business

The fact is, financial incentives have changed the way filming decisions are made. Across the U.S. forty-five states currently have incentive programs of some type in place; demonstrating recognition by those states of the economic benefit this industry offers its labor force, area businesses and communities. Internationally, Alaska faces aggressive and long established film incentives from provincial and federal governments in Canada and around the globe. In order to stay competitive in this global industry Alaska needs to send a clear message.

We support the extension of the Alaska Film Production Tax Incentive program for ten years with \$100 million available in incentives during the first five years and \$100 million in incentives for the final five years. Senate Bill 23 will continue the successful economic diversification and development it has already shown while providing Alaska businesses opportunities to properly plan for and capitalize on Alaska's newest multi-million dollar industry.

For all of these reasons, **Ascending Path and Glacier Productions LLC** fully supports the Film Credit Tax Credit Bill and thanks the Alaska State Legislature for working towards a more prosperous Alaska.

Sincerely,

Matt Szundy

Owner

Ascending Path and Glacier Productions LLC

February 14, 2011

Senator Johnny Ellis
Chair Senate Rules Committee
State Capitol, 119
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: Senate Bill 23 Film Production Tax Credit

Dear Senator Ellis:

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I support the extension of the Alaska Film Production Tax Incentive program for ten years with \$100 million available in incentives during the first five years and \$100 million in incentives for the final five years. Senate Bill 23 will continue the economic diversification and economic development success of the film tax incentives while also providing a clear signal that offers Alaska businesses the opportunity to better plan for and capitalize on Alaska's newest multi-million dollar industry.

For all of these reasons, I fully support the Film Credit Tax Credit Bill and would like to thank the Alaska State Legislature for working towards a more prosperous Alaska.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angela M. Pinsonneault". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Angela M. Pinsonneault, CPA, CSOX



Brice Habeger
www.bricehabeger.com
A Salt 'N Buttery Prods.
2225 Great Western St., Apt. A
Douglas, Ak 99824
907.321.3251

Re: Letter of Support for SB23: Alaska Film Incentive Program Extension

February 08, 2011

Dear Senator Ellis,

I'm writing in support of SB23. First off, I would again like to thank you for your support of the statewide film industry with your promotion and the passage of SB230. Over the last year, the state has seen millions of dollars pumped into the local economy as a direct result of that bill.

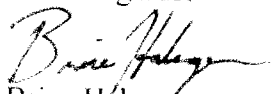
As an Alaskan and as a filmmaker, I support the extension of the tax incentive. To me, it is a way to grow the economy of Alaska by capitalizing on its natural beauty with minimal spending by the state. As the legislation currently stands, the state returns \$1 to the production for every \$3 that is brought into the economy. This is math that works in favor of Alaskans.

Since returning to Alaska in 2008 and testifying in support of SB230, I've started my own business and have taken a vested interest in the film industry here. My growth as a skilled tradesmen didn't end when I graduated from Columbia College in Chicago. I've shared my knowledge with the community by teaching lighting classes to high school students and involving myself in local unpaid productions with other filmmakers, as well as projects at the church I attend. I'm an active member of the AFG, and as a member of the Digital Cinema Society, I keep current with production trends in the industry world wide.

As a business owner and a freelancer, I've worked on various projects that come to Juneau, example: worked on an ACS commercial; as well as work with local clients, example: currently working with University of Alaska Southeast. In addition, I did scouting work locally for *Everybody Loves Whales* and traveled to Anchorage to work as a grip on *Ghostvision*.

The extension of the tax incentive would create an environment for myself and others to continue increasing the size our skill sets as well as our tool belts, but not because of eating well, rather it would be a result of working on many top level productions and building up our tools to match the level of any professional working in Hollywood. With the passage of this extension, I believe that we can continue the growth of a well trained and highly skilled Alaskan work force, as well as encourage the private sector to construct necessary infrastructure, such as a sound stage.

Thank you for your time.

Regards,

Brice Habeger

Josh McIntyre
4301 MacAlister Drive
Anchorage, AK 99502
jmcintyre@mcc-cpa.com

February 10, 2011

The Honorable Senator Johnny Ellis
State Capitol, 119
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Ellis:

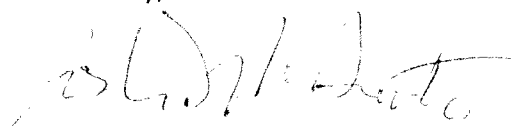
I live in District 28-N, in Anchorage. I am Certified Public Accountant in Alaska, and a graduate of the University of Alaska, Anchorage. I am writing to you in support of Senate Bill Number 23.

Since its inception in 2008 the Film Production Tax Incentive program has created jobs for Alaskans and economic opportunities for Alaska businesses small and large. Film and television projects offer invaluable marketing and promotion for Alaska tourism, products and businesses. Continuing and extending this program offers a clear signal to the multi-billion dollar film and television industry that Alaska is open for business.

Financial incentives have changed the way filming decisions are made. Alaska faces aggressive and long established film incentives from provincial and federal governments in Canada. 45 other states currently have programs of some type as they understand the economic benefits that this industry can bring to our businesses and communities.

I support the extension of the Alaska Film Production Tax Incentive program for ten years with \$100 million available in incentives during the first five years and \$100 million in incentives for the final five years. Senate Bill 23 will continue the economic diversification and economic development success of the film tax incentives while also providing a clear signal that offers Alaska businesses the opportunity to better plan for and capitalize on Alaska's newest multi-million dollar industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Josh McIntyre', with a stylized, flowing script.

Josh McIntyre

Matthew Moser

From: Ron Hedge [hronbo@acsalaska.net]
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2011 10:31 AM
To: Sen. Johnny Ellis
Subject: sb23

Senator Ellis,

I'm writing to support you and your efforts with SB 23. For a little over 3 months I worked as a " propmaker" for Icebreaker Films in Anchorage for the movie "Everybody Loves Whales". I normally work as a cabinetmaker/woodworker and as a consultant on a variety of residential and commercial construction projects. I delayed scheduled projects in order to work on "the show" and I'm glad I did.

The first thing I was told when I got hired was that the reason why this particular movie was being filmed in Alaska was that the production company was saving \$11 million in permits and fees . That's not chump change, and it definitely made an impression on the movie's makers. Towards the end of production I asked if the logistical problems and weather conditions would effect their decision in the future and I was told "we would come back in a heartbeat if it made us money", and was told that they only have good things to say.

I worked side by side with workers that were imported from North Carolina, which I soon learned was #3 in movie and television production and known as Hollywood East. They also claimed to be the advance crew here to "train Alaskans" to work in the movie industry. The Alaskan artists and craftspersons I worked with more than answered that challenge and I dare say taught the crewmembers from outside a few things as well.

Good luck with your endeavors,
Ron Hedge

From: Mark Sabel [<mailto:mark.sabel@gmail.com>]

Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2011 2:50 PM

To: Sen. Johnny Ellis

Subject: SB23

Dear Senator Ellis:

In the 1990s to early 2000s I was a fixture in the Capitol. I worked shooting TV news for all three Anchorage stations and later shot video for the Governor's Office. Being so familiar with you, I spotted you as soon as you walked over to visit the "Everybody Loves Whales" filming. I was a crew member on the movie from before the first day of shooting until after it wrapped. I worked very long hours, but my paychecks were big.

The movie would never have come to Alaska if not for the Film Incentive. Talk about an 'economic engine'! The production brought a lot of money from Outside to Alaska and provided people like me great employment. Alaska needs much more of the same. I strongly support Senate Bill 23.

Sincerely,

MARK SABEL



Senator Johnny Ellis
Chair, Senate Rules Committee
State Capitol, 119
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Ellis,

I am writing to show my support for Senate Bill 23.

Without this important incentive program it would have been much more difficult to raise funding for our feature film, 'The Doppelganger Principle.' With the exception of our star, Ed Asner, all cast and crew will be pulled from the talent we have here in Alaska. Further, since our investors are local, as well, all revenues from our film go right back into our local economy.

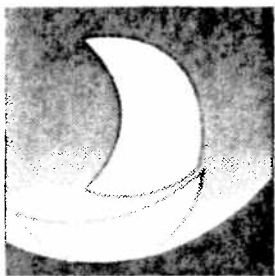
The tax incentive program has kick-started a long undeveloped industry here. Not only are we seeing big-budget feature films coming in with many jobs for Alaskans, but some of our own young film makers are now encouraged to try to ply their craft here, rather than make the usual pilgrimage Outside. I was recently invited to take part in a new web-series, 'Alaska Film Makers,' a continuing web-accessed program reporting on what is happening in our local film community. This is all quite heartening.

As the first-ever elected Alaska representative of the Screen Actors Guild, I have recently been able to help add several new members to our ranks. I fully expect that our membership in Alaska will double before the end of this year. Perhaps even more rewarding, as I now sit on the SAGIndie National Committee, we have been able to show local film makers how to develop their work as a SAG signatory project..

Good things are happening here as a direct result of this program. Extending it should be a no-brainer.

Let's not blow it!

Ron Holmstrom, Director
Doppelganger Productions, LLC
645 G St. Ste 100-616
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
907-748-5729



prince william sound
**ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
DISTRICT**

Chenega Bay

Cordova

Tatitlek

Valdez

Whittier

January 31, 2011

Senator Johnny Ellis
Chair, Senate Rules Committee
State Capitol, 119
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Senate Bill 23

Dear Senator Ellis:

On behalf of Prince William Sound Economic Development District, I would like to offer our support of Senate Bill 23, the Alaska Film Tax Incentive legislation. Since these incentives were created in 2008, millions of film production dollars have been spent in Alaska, creating many jobs and business opportunities across our beautiful and unique state. (It's very annoying to see a film about the Alaska experience that was filmed in British Columbia or Wyoming!)

We support the extension of Alaska Film Tax Incentive program for ten years with \$100 million available in incentives during the first five years and \$100 million for the following five years. These incentives will establish a positive statement to the film and television industry that Alaska is a welcoming environment for production, marketing and promotion.

Sincerely,

Sue Cogswell, Executive Director



To
Senator Johnny Ellis
Chair, Senate Rules Committee
State Capital, 119
Juneau, AK 99684

Dear Senator Ellis,

I am an adjunct instructor of physics live here at Unalakleet and teach online physics class for HAF-NW Campus, Nome. I am writing you because I want to share my thoughts on Alaska's new emerging film industries with you. The film industries should make films about Alaska those shot here in Alaska, not somewhere else. It would promote our Alaskan image around the world. It is good for our local business and tourism industries. As you know many of our jobs depend on the tourism business.

So, I am humbly letting you know I am in favor of **SB23** bill. This bill extent tax incentives for the film industries to make film about Alaska not in BC, Canada or Washington or elsewhere but in Alaska.

Thank you.
Sincerely,



Mosaddeque Reza
(House District 39)
P.O. Box 347
Unalakleet, AK 99684
Phone: (907) 624- 3158

Dated: Unalakleet, AK
02/07/2011

Hello,

I wanted to take time out of my day to write my very first letter to my State legislature.

I am a life-long Alaskan, invested in my community - my great-grandparents immigrated in 1917, landing in Douglas, then relocating to Spenard in 1954; my daughter currently goes to O'Malley elementary, and my wife works for the Anchorage School District.

I have been active in the arts community for over 25 years, and have seen, and felt, the ups and downs of the economy's impact on the arts.

Recently, I have been given the opportunity to take part in two major motion pictures that were filmed here in Anchorage: Everybody Loves Whales, and Ghost Visions (aka Beyond)

While my contribution to the film was small, the economic and social impact to the community was tremendous - and very positive.

I am encouraging you to extend your support for Senate Bill 23 and House Bill 67, which will extend the Alaska Film Tax Incentive program.

Oregon is a wonderful example of how tax incentives can bring the film and TV industry into a community, and help drive the economy by offsetting failing-industry income dollars.

Our state needs to be known for more than just oil, seafood, and gold: we need an image and income that will last through the ups-and-downs of non-renewable resources.

I believe that the Film Tax Incentive can play a part in Alaska's future, and I ask that you, too, play a part.

Leif Sawyer
6251 East 112th Ave
Anchorage, AK 99516

<http://imdb.me/LeifSawyer>

From: Donald Schwall [<mailto:buzzschwall@buzzoplex.net>]

Sent: Monday, February 07, 2011 10:54 AM

To: Sen. Johnny Ellis

Subject: film work

Sir,

I must tell you what a great experience the film "Everybody Loves Whales" was. I have been a stage hand in Anchorage for fifteen years and have worked on a number of commercial and film projects. But this level of work has not come my way and the training and experience is still appreciated.

Thank you and your associates for that opportunity. I sincerely hope this initiative will continue.

Thanks

Buzz

Buzz Schwall

buzzschwall@buzzoplex.net

www.buzzoplex.net

-----Original Message-----

From: Daryl Hoflich [<mailto:darylh@gci.net>]

Sent: Saturday, January 29, 2011 4:48 PM

To: Sen. Johnny Ellis

Subject: In support of state film incentives

Please keep the film incentive program going to support this new and renewable sector of our economy.

Sincerely - Daryl Hoflich



Maya Salganek
Asst. Professor/Director Film Studies
University of Alaska Fairbanks
PO Box 755700
Fairbanks, AK 99775-5700
(907) 474-5950
maya@alaska.edu

Senator Johnny Ellis
Chair, Senate Rules Committee
State Capitol, 119
Juneau, AK 99801

February 7, 2011

Honorable Senator Ellis,

Thank you for taking the initiative to introduce Senate Bill 23 to the current legislative session. Extending the film production tax credits for an additional ten years will allow the State to continue developing this industry in a comprehensive fashion. Establishing a workforce, infrastructure, and proving our talents is part of the long-term strategy.

The University of Alaska Fairbanks has actively been working with film industry partners since 2007 to broaden the skills of our students and provide opportunities for on-the-job training. We have supplied talent, crew, logistical support, and even equipment for Discovery channel, Sundance Institute, Universal Pictures, CNN, the History Channel, BBC, and dozens of smaller film production companies from all over the world. Our students have worked with industry from television commercials to feature films.

UAF Film students have been funded by the National Science Foundation for work with the International Polar Year, recognized by the Legislature for their broadcasts from Iraq as embedded journalists, and have been cast in roles as actors from Barrow to Anchorage. We have been proud partners and associates in two films screened at Sundance, and others that have been seen in International Film Festivals the world over. Enrollment in UAF Film Courses has grown 60% in the past four years, and continues to grow.

The Alaska State Film Tax Incentives are the first step in attracting established film companies, producers, directors, and talent to Alaska. In so doing, they are providing local Alaskans opportunities to not only work on the set, but also provide services in direct support of productions. From hotels and restaurants to transportation and equipment, ripples are cast wide when a film comes to town.

It takes several years to develop a film production from concept to screen. We have really only seen two years to prove what could be done in our state with the incentive program in place. Once the timeline is extended, more filmmakers will commit to developing their projects here and we will see a surge in productivity and revenue as a result.

The film industry is a green, renewable, and lucrative industry to attract to our state. The benefits of tax incentive programs have been proven; New Mexico, North Carolina, New Orleans, and Michigan have seen substantial revenue growth due to the film industry presence.

Fortunately for us, Alaska is ALASKA! Filmmakers want to share its beauty with the world. Let's help them do that, keep the revenue in state, give Alaskans the jobs, and share our stories with the world.

Thank you for your service to this Great State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Maya Salganek', with a stylized, flowing script.

Maya Salganek
Assistant Professor, Theatre & Director, Film Studies
University of Alaska Fairbanks

Matthew Moser

From: Corrie Young [corrieyoung@me.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2011 3:51 PM
To: Sen. Johnny Ellis
Subject: Support SB 23 (HB 67) - Alaska Film Industry Incentives

Dear Senator Ellis:

I support Alaska's growing film industry and acknowledge the positive economic impact it has in our state. Therefore, I wholeheartedly support SB 23 and HB67.

Sincerely,

a 4th generation Alaskan,
Corrie Young
Anchorage, Alaska