

Feb. 11th, 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:

On behalf of Alaska Crew Training Inc.; we want to thank you for sponsoring this extension of the Alaska Film Production Tax Incentive Program, Senate Bill 23 and offer our support.

Since its inception in 2008, Alaska's Film Production Tax Incentive program has created jobs and economic opportunities for Alaskans and for Alaskan businesses small and large. Our training program, Alaska Crew Training Inc. exists *because* of these incentives. In addition to building Alaska's labor force, film and television projects offer invaluable marketing and promotion for Alaska tourism, products and businesses. Continuing this program offers a clear signal to the multi-billion dollar film and television industry that Alaska understands the value of this industry and welcomes productions into our state.

Those of us who work in this industry today know first hand that financial incentives have changed the way filming decisions are made. Across the U.S. forty-five states have incentive programs in place. This demonstrates an understanding by those states of the economic benefits this industry offers. Internationally Alaska faces aggressive and long established film incentives from provincial and federal governments in Canada and around the globe. To stay competitive in this global marketplace 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. We hope that 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. Thank you for promoting and keeping Alaska in the movie business!

For all of these reasons, Alaska Crew Training, Inc. fully supports the Film Credit Tax Credit Bill and thanks the Alaska State Legislature for working towards a more prosperous Alaska.

Sincerely,



Deborah Schildt – Program Administrator
Alaska Crew Training, Inc.

P.O. Box 110163
Anchorage, AK 99511
c 907/223-3740
c 907/230-6870
f 907/783-2625
www.alaskacrewtraining.org
akcrewtraining@gmail.com