



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