

February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011

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

Re: SB23 - Alaska Film Incentive Continuation

Dear Senator Ellis:

On behalf of the board of the Sitka Convention & Visitors Bureau (SCVB), we strongly support SB23 to extend the Alaska Film Incentive Program.

The recently established Film Incentive Program has finally allowed Alaska to be a contender in the lucrative film industry and has enabled our state to compete with other states and countries as a feasible filming locale. The effectiveness of the program has gained notoriety through many recent film projects, including the first major motion picture to ever be fully filmed in the State of Alaska. A film of this magnitude contributes significantly to jobs, goods and services, housing, air and marine transportation, and will continue to market Alaska for decades after being produced.

We believe there is potential for increased economic growth in this sector, even for smaller rural communities such as Sitka. City economies reap direct benefits from the many local taxes are levied on the industry. Encouraging these incentives through 2018 will continue our ability to enjoy the positive economic impacts from the film industry.

Senator Ellis, we encourage your sponsorship of SB23 for the State of Alaska to continue our ability to compete in the film industry and continue building economic strength through this market.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mary Stensfold (Chair), Pat Fager (Vice Chair), Ron Hauck,  
John Dunlap, and Evy Kinnear.

By:



Tonia Rioux, Executive Director  
Sitka Convention and Visitors Bureau



**SITKA**  
CONVENTION AND  
VISITORS BUREAU

P.O. Box 1226  
Sitka, Alaska 99835  
Ph:(907)747-5940  
Fax:(907)747-3739  
scvb@sitka.org  
www.sitka.org