February 13, 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:

I would like to offer my 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.

I have been directly impacted by this program by working on the film, *Everybody Loves Whales*, in the Locations Department assisting with logistics for 26 sites in Anchorage. I believe this program is the just the beginning of blossoming business endeavors and I feel very fortunate to be a part of the growth and future success.

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. Across forty-five U.S. states that 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.

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 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, I support the Film Credit Tax Credit Bill and thank the Alaska State Legislature for working towards a more prosperous Alaska.

Sincerely,

Miisaaq Consulting