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Thank you Chairman Smith, Representative Ryan, Representative Schuring and the Finance committee for giving me this opportunity to speak. My name is John Daugherty and I am the Executive Director of the Greater Columbus Film Commission.

We are excited there is proposed legislation to raise the Ohio motion picture tax credit. Over the past few years we have seen increased interest and increased revenue from films coming to Ohio to shoot. Ohio's current film tax credit has brought \$400 million into the economy, a two-for-one return against the tax credit.

Our goal and the goal of the tax credit is to create YEAR-ROUND jobs and create a sustainable industry for the state. We are completely in favor of raising the tax credit. Our concern is with removal of the cap per project and monopolization of the credit for one region. In reality, with no cap per project two large films could come in and use up the entire credit. Many of those jobs on large films are for people who reside out of state, and the production comes to Ohio and leaves. This is not good for the state. As a state, we should all be working together to raise awareness as a whole to make OHIO a filmmaking destination.

Just in Columbus, with only two films shooting here this past year, the economic impact was substantial. The two films employed a total of 834 people with a total estimated spend of \$16.6MM.

The Greater Columbus Film Commission is in talks now with companies about their next projects. Those national projects are largely on hold until the credit question is answered. For Columbus this could easily be 4-8 films a year in addition to local projects.

We have a plan to grow this industry in Columbus. To create jobs and job training. We are partnered with CCAD, Ohio Film Group, the Greater Columbus Arts Council, Experience Columbus, Ohio State University and many local production companies and independent filmmakers.

We want every job to remain in Ohio on a film. Although this is not likely a reality, we should strive for that. We should attract production companies that want to live and reside in Ohio along WITH major motion pictures. If we work together to realize the proper plan and the proper legislation this can be possible.

Thank you again Chairman Smith, Representative Ryan, Representative Schuring and the Finance Committee for giving me this opportunity to speak. We look forward to working



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together on this to make Ohio a great place to make movies and a great place for those in the industry to reside and work all year.

Thank you.