As Reported by the Senate Ways and Means Committee

133rd General Assembly

Regular Session 2019-2020

Sub. S. B. No. 37

Senator Schuring

Cosponsors: Senators Hackett, Manning, Wilson

A BILL

То	amend sections 107.036, 122.85, 5726.98,	1
	5733.98, 5747.98, and 5751.98 of the Revised	2
	Code to extend eligibility for and make other	3
	changes to the motion picture tax credit.	4

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 107.036, 122.85, 5726.98,	5
5733.98, 5747.98, and 5751.98 of the Revised Code be amended to	6
read as follows:	7
Sec. 107.036. (A) For each business incentive tax credit,	8
the main operating appropriations act shall contain a detailed	9
estimate of the total amount of credits that may be authorized	10
in each year, an estimate of the amount of credits expected to	11
be claimed in each year, and an estimate of the amount of	12
credits expected to remain outstanding at the end of the	13
biennium. The governor shall include such estimates in the state	14
budget submitted to the general assembly pursuant to section	15
107.03 of the Revised Code.	16
(B) As used in this section, "business incentive tax	17
credit" means all of the following:	1.8

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section	the	authori	ty to	claim	all	or	а	part	of	the	tax	credit	46
authoriz	zed k	by that	certi	ficate									47

- (3) "Motion picture—Production company" means an individual, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or other form of business association producing a motion picture or broadway theatrical production.
- (4) "Eligible production—expenditures" means expenditures 52 made after June 30, 2009, for goods or services purchased and 53 consumed in this state by a motion picture production company 54 directly for the production of a tax credit-eligible production 55 or for postproduction activities, or for advertising and 56 promotion of the production. 57

"Eligible production expenditures" includes, but is not 58 limited to, expenditures for cast and crew wages, 59 accommodations, costs of set construction and operations, 60 editing and related services, photography, sound 61 synchronization, lighting, wardrobe, makeup and accessories, 62 film processing, transfer, sound mixing, special and visual 63 effects, music, location fees, and the purchase or rental of 64 facilities and equipment. 65

(5) "Motion picture" means entertainment content created 66 in whole or in part within this state for distribution or 67 exhibition to the general public, including, but not limited to, 68 feature-length films; documentaries; long-form, specials, 69 70 miniseries, series, and interstitial television programming; interactive web sites; sound recordings; videos; music videos; 71 interactive television; interactive games; video games; 72 commercials; any format of digital media; and any trailer, 73 pilot, video teaser, or demo created primarily to stimulate the 74 sale, marketing, promotion, or exploitation of future investment 75

in either a product or a motion picture by any means and media	76
in any digital media format, film, or videotape, provided the	77
motion picture qualifies as a motion picture. "Motion picture"	78
does not include any television program created primarily as	79
news, weather, or financial market reports, a production	80
featuring current events or sporting events, an awards show or	81
other gala event, a production whose sole purpose is	82
fundraising, a long-form production that primarily markets a	83
product or service or in-house corporate advertising or other	84
similar productions, a production for purposes of political	85
advocacy, or any production for which records are required to be	86
maintained under 18 U.S.C. 2257 with respect to sexually	87
explicit content.	88
(6) "Broadway theatrical production" means a prebroadway	89
production, long run production, or tour launch that is	90
directed, managed, and performed by a professional cast and crew	91
and that is directly associated with New York city's broadway	92
theater district.	93
(7) "Prebroadway production" means a live stage production	94
that is scheduled for presentation in New York city's broadway	95
theater district after the original or adaptive version is	96
performed in a qualified production facility.	97
(8) "Long run production" means a live stage production	98
that is scheduled to be performed at a qualified production	99
facility for more than five weeks, with an average of at least	100
six performances per week.	101
(9) "Tour launch" means a live stage production for which	102
the activities comprising the technical period are conducted at	103
a qualified production facility before a tour of the original or	104
adaptive version of the production begins.	105

(10) "Qualified production facility" means a facility	106
located in this state that is used in the development or	107
presentation to the public of theater productions.	108
(B) For the purpose of encouraging and developing a strong	109
film industry and theater industries in this state, the director	110
of development services may certify a motion picture or broadway	111
theatrical production produced by a motion picture production	112
company as a tax credit-eligible production. In the case of a	113
television series, the director may certify the production of	114
each episode of the series as a separate tax credit-eligible	115
production. A motion picture production company shall apply for	116
certification of a motion picture or broadway theatrical	117
<pre>production as a tax credit-eligible production on a form and in</pre>	118
the manner prescribed by the director. Each application shall	119
include the following information:	120
(1) The name and telephone number of the motion picture	121
production company;	122
(2) The name and telephone number of the company's contact	123
person;	124
(3) A list of the first preproduction date through the	125
last production date and postproduction dates in Ohio and, in	126
the case of a broadway theatrical production, a list of each	127
scheduled performance in a qualified production facility;	128
(4) The Ohio production office or qualified production	129
<pre>facility address and telephone number;</pre>	130
(5) The total production budget of the motion picture;	131
(6) The total budgeted eligible production expenditures	132
and the percentage that amount is of the total production budget	133
of the motion picture or broadway theatrical production;	134

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reviewable progress. If the motion picture production company	162
fails to present sufficient evidence, the director may rescind	163
the certification. <u>If the production of a motion picture or</u>	164
broadway theatrical production does not begin within ninety days	165
after the date it is certified as a tax credit-eligible	166
production, the director shall rescind the certification unless	167
the director finds that the production company shows good cause	168
for the delay, meaning that the production was delayed due to	169
unforeseeable circumstances beyond the production company's	170
control or due to action or inaction by a government agency.	171
Upon rescission, the director shall notify the applicant that	172
the certification has been rescinded. Nothing in this section	173
prohibits an applicant whose tax credit-eligible production	174
certification has been rescinded from submitting a subsequent	175
application for certification.	176

(C) (1) A motion picture production company whose motion picture or broadway theatrical production has been certified as a tax credit-eligible production may apply to the director of development services on or after July 1, 2009, for a refundable credit against the tax imposed by section 5726.02, 5733.06, 5747.02, or 5751.02 of the Revised Code. The director in consultation with the tax commissioner shall prescribe the form and manner of the application and the information or documentation required to be submitted with the application.

The credit is determined as follows:

(a) If the total budgeted eligible production—expenditures

stated in the application submitted under division (B) of this

section or the actual eligible production—expenditures as

finally determined under division (D) of this section, whichever

is least, is less than or equal to three hundred thousand

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dollars, no credit is allowed;

- (b) If the total budgeted eligible production—expenditures

 stated in the application submitted under division (B) of this

 section or the actual eligible production—expenditures as

 finally determined under division (D) of this section, whichever

 is least, is greater than three hundred thousand dollars, the

 credit equals thirty per cent of the least of such budgeted or

 actual eligible expenditure amounts.
- 200 (2) Except as provided in division (C)(4) of this section, if the director of development services approves a motion-201 picture production company's application for a credit, the 202 director shall issue a tax credit certificate to the company. 203 The director in consultation with the tax commissioner shall 204 prescribe the form and manner of issuing certificates. The 205 director shall assign a unique identifying number to each tax 206 credit certificate and shall record the certificate in a 207 register devised and maintained by the director for that 208 purpose. The certificate shall state the amount of the eligible 209 production—expenditures on which the credit is based and the 210 amount of the credit. Upon the issuance of a certificate, the 211 212 director shall certify to the tax commissioner the name of the applicant, the amount of eligible production expenditures shown 213 on the certificate, the amount of the credit, and any other 214 215 information required by the rules adopted to administer this section. 216
- (3) The amount of eligible production—expenditures for 217 which a tax credit may be claimed is subject to inspection and 218 examination by the tax commissioner or employees of the 219 commissioner under section 5703.19 of the Revised Code and any 220 other applicable law. Once the eligible production—expenditures 221

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are finally determined under section 5703.19 of the Revised Code	222
and division (D) of this section, the credit amount is not	223
subject to adjustment unless the director determines an error	224
was committed in the computation of the credit amount.	225

- (4) No tax credit certificate may be issued before the completion of the tax credit-eligible production. Not more than forty million dollars of tax credit may be allowed per fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016, provided that, for any fiscal year in which the amount of tax credits allowed under this section is less than that maximum annual amount, the amount not allowed for that fiscal year shall be added to the maximum annual amount that may be allowed for the following fiscal year.
- (5) In approving The director shall review and approve 234 applications for tax credits-under this section in two rounds 235 each fiscal year. The first round of credits shall be awarded 236 not later than the last day of July of the fiscal year, and the 237 second round of credits shall be awarded not later than the last 238 day of the ensuing January. The amount of credits awarded in the 239 first round of applications each fiscal year shall not exceed 240 twenty million dollars plus any credit allotment that was not 241 awarded in the preceding fiscal year and carried over under 242 division (C)(4) of this section. For each round, the director 243 shall rank applications on the basis of the extent of positive 244 economic impact each tax credit-eligible production is likely to 245 have in this state and the effect on developing a permanent 246 workforce in motion picture or theatrical production industries 247 in the state. For the purpose of such ranking, the director 248 shall give priority to tax-credit eligible productions that are 249 television series or miniseries <u>due to the long-term commitment</u> 250 typically associated with such productions. The economic impact 251 ranking shall be based on the production company's total 252

expenditures in this state directly associated with the tax	253
credit-eligible production. The effect on developing a permanent	254
workforce in the motion picture or theatrical production	255
industries shall be evaluated first by the number of new jobs	256
created and second by amount of payroll added with respect to	257
employees in this state.	258
The director shall approve productions in the order of	259
their ranking, from those with the greatest positive economic	260
impact and workforce development effect to those with the least	261
positive economic impact and workforce development effect.	262
(D) A motion picture production company whose motion	263
picture or broadway theatrical production has been certified as	264
a tax credit-eligible production shall engage, at the company's	265
expense, an independent certified public accountant to examine	266
the company's production, postproduction, and advertising and	267
promotion expenditures to identify the expenditures that qualify	268
as eligible production expenditures. The certified public	269
accountant shall issue a report to the company and to the	270
director of development services certifying the company's	271
eligible production—expenditures and any other information	272
required by the director. Upon receiving and examining the	273
report, the director may disallow any expenditure the director	274
determines is not an eligible production -expenditure. If the	275
director disallows an expenditure, the director shall issue a	276
written notice to the motion picture—production company stating	277
that the expenditure is disallowed and the reason for the	278
disallowance. Upon examination of the report and disallowance of	279
any expenditures, the director shall determine finally the	280
lesser of the total budgeted eligible production expenditures	281
stated in the application submitted under division (B) of this	282

section or the actual eligible production expenditures for the

purpose of computing the amount of the credit.	284
(E) No credit shall be allowed under section 5726.55,	285
5733.59, 5747.66, or 5751.54 of the Revised Code unless the	286
director has reviewed the report and made the determination	287
prescribed by division (D) of this section.	288
(F) This state reserves the right to refuse the use of	289
this state's name in the credits of any tax credit-eligible	290
motion picture production or program of any broadway theatrical	291
production.	292
(G)(1) The director of development services in	293
consultation with the tax commissioner shall adopt rules for the	294
administration of this section, including rules setting forth	295
and governing the criteria for determining whether a motion	296
picture or broadway theatrical production is a tax credit-	297
eligible production; activities that constitute the production	298
or postproduction of a motion picture or broadway theatrical	299
<pre>production; reporting sufficient evidence of reviewable</pre>	300
progress; expenditures that qualify as eligible production	301
expenditures; a schedule and deadlines for applications to be	302
submitted and reviewed; a competitive process for approving	303
credits based on likely economic impact in this state and	304
development of a permanent workforce in motion picture or	305
theatrical production industries in this state; consideration of	306
geographic distribution of credits; and implementation of the	307
program described in division (I) of this section. The rules	308
shall be adopted under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.	309
(2) To cover the administrative costs of the program, the	310
director shall require each applicant to pay an application fee	311
equal to the lesser of ten thousand dollars or one per cent of	312

the estimated value of the tax credit as stated in the

application. The fees collected shall be credited to the tax	314
incentives operating fund created in section 122.174 of the	315
Revised Code. All grants, gifts, fees, and contributions made to	316
the director for marketing and promotion of the motion picture	317
industry within this state shall also be credited to the fund.	318
(H)(1) After the director of development services makes	319
the determination required under division (D) of this section, a	320
motion picture production company to which a tax credit	321
certificate is issued may transfer the authority to claim all or	322
a portion of the amount of the tax credit the motion picture	323
company is authorized to claim pursuant to that certificate-	324
under section 5726.55, 5733.59, 5747.66, or 5751.54 of the-	325
Revised Code to one or more other persons. Within thirty days	326
after a transfer under this division, the motion picture	327
<pre>production company shall submit the following information to the</pre>	328
director, on a form prescribed by the director:	329
(a) Information necessary for the director to identify the	330
certificate that is the basis for the transfer;	331
(b) The portion or amount of the tax credit transferred to	332
each transferee;	333
(c) The portion or amount of the tax credit that the	334
motion picture production company retains the authority to	335
claim;	336
(d) The tax identification number of each transferee;	337
(e) The date of the transfer;	338
(f) Any other information required by the director;	339
(g) Any information required by the tax commissioner.	340
The director shall deliver a copy of any submission	341

received under division (H)(1) of this section to the tax	342
commissioner.	343
(2) A transferee may not claim a credit under section	344
5726.55, 5733.59, 5747.66, or 5751.54 of the Revised Code unless	345
and until the transferring motion picture production company	346
complies with division (H)(1) of this section. A transferee may	347
claim the transferred amount of any credit or portion of a	348
credit for the same taxable year or tax period for which the	349
transferring motion picture production company was authorized to	350
claim the credit or portion of a credit pursuant to the	351
certificate. A motion picture production company shall make no	352
transfer under division (H)(1) of this section after the last	353
day of the tax period or taxable year for which the motion	354
picture production company is required to claim the credit	355
pursuant to the certificate.	356
A motion picture production company may make not more than	357
one transfer under division (H)(1) of this section for each tax	358
credit certificate, but pursuant to that transaction, may	359
allocate the authority to claim a portion of the credit to more	360
than one transferee. A motion picture production company may not	361
authorize more than one transferee to claim the same portion of	362
a credit.	363
(I) The director of development services shall establish a	364
program for the training of Ohio residents who are or wish to be	365
employed in the film or multimedia industry. Under the program,	366
the director shall:	367
(1) Certify individuals as film and multimedia trainees.	368
To a side of the country of the coun	
In order to receive such a certification, an individual must be	369
an Ohio resident, have participated in relevant on-the-job	369 370

by the director, and have met any other requirements established	372
by the director.	373
(2) Accept applications from motion picture production	374
companies that intend to hire and provide on-the-job training to	375
one or more certified film and multimedia trainees who will be	376
employed in the company's tax credit-eligible production.	377
(3) Upon completion of a tax-credit eligible production,	378
and upon the receipt of any salary information and other	379
documentation required by the director, authorize a	380
reimbursement payment to each motion picture production company	381
whose application was approved under division (I)(2) of this	382
section. The payment shall equal fifty per cent of the salaries	383
paid to film and multimedia trainees employed in the production.	384
Sec. 5726.98. (A) To provide a uniform procedure for	385
calculating the amount of tax due under section 5726.02 of the	386
Revised Code, a taxpayer shall claim any credits to which the	387
taxpayer is entitled under this chapter in the following order:	388
(1) The nonrefundable job retention credit under division	389
(B) of section 5726.50 of the Revised Code;	390
(2) The nonrefundable credit for purchases of qualified	391
low-income community investments under section 5726.54 of the	392
Revised Code;	393
(3) The nonrefundable credit for qualified research	394
expenses under section 5726.56 of the Revised Code;	395
(4) The nonrefundable credit for qualifying dealer in	396
intangibles taxes under section 5726.57 of the Revised Code;	397
(5) The refundable credit for rehabilitating an historic	398
building under section 5726.52 of the Revised Code;	399

(6) The refundable job retention or job creation credit	400
under division (A) of section 5726.50 of the Revised Code;	401
(7) The refundable credit under section 5726.53 of the	402
Revised Code for losses on loans made under the Ohio venture	403
capital program under sections 150.01 to 150.10 of the Revised	404
Code;	405
(8) The refundable motion picture and broadway theatrical	406
production credit under section 5726.55 of the Revised Code.	407
(B) For any credit except the refundable credits	408
enumerated in this section, the amount of the credit for a	409
taxable year shall not exceed the tax due after allowing for any	410
other credit that precedes it in the order required under this	411
section. Any excess amount of a particular credit may be carried	412
forward if authorized under the section creating that credit.	413
Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to allow a taxpayer	414
to claim, directly or indirectly, a credit more than once for a	415
taxable year.	416
Sec. 5733.98. (A) To provide a uniform procedure for	417
calculating the amount of tax imposed by section 5733.06 of the	418
Revised Code that is due under this chapter, a taxpayer shall	419
claim any credits to which it is entitled in the following	420
order, except as otherwise provided in section 5733.058 of the	421
Revised Code:	422
(1) For tax year 2005, the credit for taxes paid by a	423
qualifying pass-through entity allowed under section 5733.0611	424
of the Revised Code;	425
(2) The credit allowed for financial institutions under	426
section 5733.45 of the Revised Code;	427
(3) The credit for qualifying affiliated groups under	428

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(17) The credit for purchases of qualifying grape	458
production property under section 5733.32 of the Revised Code;	459
(18) The export sales credit under section 5733.069 of the	460
Revised Code;	461
(19) The enterprise zone credits under section 5709.65 of	462
the Revised Code;	463
(20) The credit for using Ohio coal under section 5733.39	464
of the Revised Code;	465
(21) The credit for purchases of qualified low-income	466
community investments under section 5733.58 of the Revised Code;	467
(22) The credit for small telephone companies under	468
section 5733.57 of the Revised Code;	469
(23) The credit for eligible nonrecurring 9-1-1 charges	470
under section 5733.55 of the Revised Code;	471
(24) For tax year 2005, the credit for providing programs	472
to aid the communicatively impaired under division (A) of	473
section 5733.56 of the Revised Code;	474
(25) The research and development credit under section	475
5733.352 of the Revised Code;	476
(26) For tax years 2006 and subsequent tax years, the	477
credit for taxes paid by a qualifying pass-through entity	478
allowed under section 5733.0611 of the Revised Code;	479
(27) The refundable credit for rehabilitating a historic	480
building under section 5733.47 of the Revised Code;	481
(28) The refundable jobs creation credit or job retention	482

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section 5747.055 of the Revised Code or the lump sum distribution credit under division (G) of that section;	511 512
(3) The dependent care credit under section 5747.054 of the Revised Code;	513 514
(4) The credit for displaced workers who pay for job training under section 5747.27 of the Revised Code;	515 516
(5) The campaign contribution credit under section 5747.29 of the Revised Code;	517 518
(6) The twenty-dollar personal exemption credit under section 5747.022 of the Revised Code;	519 520
(7) The joint filing credit under division (G) of section 5747.05 of the Revised Code;	521 522
(8) The earned income credit under section 5747.71 of the Revised Code;	523 524
(9) The credit for adoption of a minor child under section 5747.37 of the Revised Code;	525 526
(10) The nonrefundable job retention credit under division(B) of section 5747.058 of the Revised Code;	527 528
(11) The enterprise zone credit under section 5709.66 of the Revised Code;	529 530
(12) The ethanol plant investment credit under section 5747.75 of the Revised Code;	531 532
(13) The credit for purchases of qualifying grape production property under section 5747.28 of the Revised Code;	533 534
(14) The small business investment credit under section 5747.81 of the Revised Code;	535 536

(15) The enterprise zone credits under section 5709.65 of	537
the Revised Code;	538
(16) The research and development credit under section	539
5747.331 of the Revised Code;	540
(17) The credit for rehabilitating a historic building	541
under section 5747.76 of the Revised Code;	542
(18) The nonresident credit under division (A) of section	543
5747.05 of the Revised Code;	544
(19) The credit for a resident's out-of-state income under	545
division (B) of section 5747.05 of the Revised Code;	546
(20) The refundable motion picture and broadway theatrical	547
production credit under section 5747.66 of the Revised Code;	548
(21) The refundable jobs creation credit or job retention	549
credit under division (A) of section 5747.058 of the Revised	550
Code;	551
(22) The refundable credit for taxes paid by a qualifying	552
entity granted under section 5747.059 of the Revised Code;	553
(23) The refundable credits for taxes paid by a qualifying	554
pass-through entity granted under division (I) of section	555
5747.08 of the Revised Code;	556
(24) The refundable credit under section 5747.80 of the	557
Revised Code for losses on loans made to the Ohio venture	558
capital program under sections 150.01 to 150.10 of the Revised	559
Code;	560
(25) The refundable credit for rehabilitating a historic	561
building under section 5747.76 of the Revised Code;	562
(26) The refundable credit for financial institution taxes	563

paid by a pass-through entity granted under section 5747.65 of	564
the Revised Code.	565
(B) For any credit, except the refundable credits	566
enumerated in this section and the credit granted under division	567
(H) of section 5747.08 of the Revised Code, the amount of the	568
credit for a taxable year shall not exceed the taxpayer's	569
aggregate amount of tax due under section 5747.02 of the Revised	570
Code, after allowing for any other credit that precedes it in	571
the order required under this section. Any excess amount of a	572
particular credit may be carried forward if authorized under the	573
section creating that credit. Nothing in this chapter shall be	574
construed to allow a taxpayer to claim, directly or indirectly,	575
a credit more than once for a taxable year.	576
Sec. 5751.98. (A) To provide a uniform procedure for	577
calculating the amount of tax due under this chapter, a taxpayer	578
shall claim any credits to which it is entitled in the following	579
order:	580
(1) The nonrefundable jobs retention credit under division	581
(B) of section 5751.50 of the Revised Code;	582
(2) The nonrefundable credit for qualified research	583
expenses under division (B) of section 5751.51 of the Revised	584
Code;	585
(3) The nonrefundable credit for a borrower's qualified	586
research and development loan payments under division (B) of	587
section 5751.52 of the Revised Code;	588
(4) The nonrefundable credit for calendar years 2010 to	589
2029 for unused net operating losses under division (B) of	590
section 5751.53 of the Revised Code;	591
(5) The refundable motion picture and broadway theatrical	592

(B) The amendment by this act of division (C)(5) of

section 122.85 of the Revised Code concerning the times during

impact of the productions applies to fiscal years beginning on

applications based on the economic and workforce development

or after the effective date of this section.

which tax credits are awarded and requiring the Director to rank

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(C) The Director of Development Services in consultation	622
with the Tax Commissioner shall adopt rules for the	623
administration of section 122.85 of the Revised Code, as amended	624
by this act, pursuant to division (G)(1) of that section on or	625
before the first day of the first fiscal year that begins on or	626
after the effective date of this section, or as soon thereafter	627
as otherwise permitted by law.	628
(D) All other amendments by this act of sections 107.036,	629
122.85, 5726.98, 5733.98, 5747.98, and 5751.98 of the Revised	630
Code apply on and after the effective date of this section.	631
Section 4. The Director of Development Services shall	632
rescind certification of a motion picture that was certified as	633
a tax credit-eligible production under section 122.85 of the	634
Revised Code before the effective date of this act if the	635
production of that motion picture has not begun on or before the	636
effective date of this section or within one year of the date	637
the production was certified, whichever is later.	638

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