

GREAT STATE OF KANSAS - FILM & MEDIA TAX INCENTIVE

LETTER OF SUPPORT

January 30, 2023

Kansas State Legislature
300 SW 10th Street
Topeka, Kansas 66612

RE: Senate Bill 91

To Whom It May Concern –

I am an independent film, television and digital content producer with over 20 years of entertainment and media related experience. I have produced or executive produced dozens of feature films for major studios, and television series for major broadcast networks, and I have produced TV commercials and other various social/ digital content for clients and corporate brands all over the world.

As a film & television tax credit financier based in Los Angeles, and as a film completion bond representative, I worked on over 400 motion pictures, I was instrumental in senior debt structured finance, tax credit lending, and had a heavy hand in pushing feature film productions and television series to tax jurisdictions within the US (33 US States), Canada, and over 40 countries around the world. Each location had either a tax rebate or some type of tax incentive or a transferable tax credit which attracted any number of productions. Unfortunately, Kansas and Missouri were ever part of these discussions.

In 2021, over \$66 Billion was spent on feature film and television production in the United States. Unfortunately, not a single dollar was spent in Kansas or Missouri.

I have personally witnessed what a tax incentive program can do for a local workforce, as well as local businesses, and I have first hand knowledge of the positive impact a film or a television production has on all the related, and unrelated, industries within that local economy. Job creation, talent retention, workforce training and education, tourism, small business growth, are all part of the positive impacts.

By not having any type of tax incentives for Film or Television Production, we are simply leaving money on the table. And until we pass a bill similar to SB91, we will lose major and independent productions, and the opportunities those projects bring with them, to other states and jurisdictions that have a robust incentive.

Respectfully,



Justin Begnaud
Kansas City Native
Film & TV Producer
(m) 816.519.4913