



January 15, 2020

Governor Phil Murphy  
145 W State St, State House Annex  
Trenton, NJ 08608-1101

Dear Governor Murphy:

We are writing today as representatives of the entertainment unions, whose members work hard every day in New Jersey on film and television productions, to applaud your support for the New Jersey production tax incentive program. We fully support the state production tax credit and would like you to know how valuable it is to our large, growing memberships.

Our union members who earn their living here in New Jersey can then contribute to the arts and culture environment by teaching classes, appearing on stage, or even creating their own productions and employing more people. The value of this added benefit should not be overlooked, as the quality of life in New Jersey is part of what keeps our state an attractive location for businesses.

To be clear, we are referring to middle class union jobs which also provide contributions to union health and retirement funds, allowing professional workers to support themselves and their families, now and in retirement, right here in New Jersey.

Not only does the incentive help keep families close, by allowing New Jersey's creative professionals to work here in their home state, it also ensures that their incomes recirculate toward New Jersey goods and services, strengthening the state's overall economy.

As you know, New Jersey has been home to several successful productions in recent years, including television shows such as *Enemy Within*, *Lincoln*, *Succession*, and *Billions* and feature films such as *The Joker*, *West Side Story*, and *Paterson*.

The United States produces over \$18 billion in television and movies each year, employing tens of thousands of workers in a "green manufacturing" model, not just in Hollywood. Far from being a credit that benefits "Hollywood elites", the most important beneficiaries of this credit are the hardworking New Jersey families you represent and defend.

We are proud that New Jersey continues to be a player in that economy and the state production tax credit paves the way forward to continued growth.

Thank you for supporting the vibrant entertainment workforce in the state of New Jersey and continuing to support the state's proven production tax incentive program.

Sincerely,

SAG-AFTRA

*Teamsters Local 817*

*International Cinematographers Guild IATSE Local 600*

*Directors Guild of America*

*Writers Guild of America East*

*Editors Guild Local 700*

*IATSE Local 52*

*United Scenic Artists IATSE Local 829*