
SENATE BILL 6584

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Senators Hasegawa, Chase, and Saldaña

Read first time 01/31/18. Referred to Committee on Economic Development & International Trade.

1 AN ACT Relating to the motion picture competitiveness program;
2 amending RCW 43.365.020; and creating a new section.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the goal of the
5 motion picture competitiveness program is to provide an economic
6 development tool for rebuilding motion picture and associated
7 creative industries' infrastructure by attracting producers who will
8 support development of a strong and diverse motion picture industry.

9 Therefore, the legislature finds that it is necessary to ensure
10 that local producers have equity of access to industry opportunities
11 and to ensure that the motion picture competitiveness program is
12 achieving the desired result for the people of the state.

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.365.020 and 2012 c 189 s 2 are each amended to
14 read as follows:

15 (1) The department must adopt criteria for the approved motion
16 picture competitiveness program with the sole purpose of revitalizing
17 the state's economic, cultural, and educational standing in the
18 national and international market of motion picture production. Rules
19 adopted by the department shall allow the program, within the
20 established criteria, to provide funding assistance only when it

1 captures economic opportunities for Washington's communities and
2 businesses and shall only be provided under a contractual arrangement
3 with a private entity. In establishing the criteria, the department
4 shall consider:

5 (a) The additional income and tax revenue to be retained in the
6 state for general purposes;

7 (b) The creation and retention of family-wage jobs which provide
8 health insurance and payments into a retirement plan;

9 (c) The impact of motion picture projects to maximize in-state
10 labor and the use of in-state film production and film postproduction
11 companies;

12 (d) The impact upon the local economies and the state economy as
13 a whole, including multiplier effects;

14 (e) The intangible impact on the state and local communities that
15 comes with motion picture projects;

16 (f) The regional, national, and international competitiveness of
17 the motion picture filming industry;

18 (g) The revitalization of the state as a premier venue for motion
19 picture production and national television commercial campaigns;

20 (h) Partnerships with the private sector to bolster film
21 production in the state and serve as an educational and cultural
22 purpose for its citizens;

23 (i) The vitality of the state's motion picture industry as a
24 necessary and critical factor in promoting the state as a premier
25 tourist and cultural destination;

26 (j) ~~((Giving preference to additional seasons of television
27 series that have previously qualified;~~

28 ~~(k))~~) Other factors the department may deem appropriate for the
29 implementation of this chapter.

30 (2) The board of directors created under RCW 43.365.030 shall
31 create and administer an account for carrying out the purposes of
32 subsection (3) of this section.

33 (3) Money received by the approved motion picture competitiveness
34 program shall be used only for:

35 (a) Health insurance and payments into a retirement plan, and
36 other costs associated with film production; and

37 (b) Staff and related expenses to maintain the program's proper
38 administration and operation.

39 (4) Except as provided otherwise in subsection (7) of this
40 section, maximum funding assistance from the approved motion picture

1 competitiveness program is limited to an amount up to thirty percent
2 of the total actual investment in the state of at least:

3 (a) Five hundred thousand dollars for a single motion picture
4 produced in Washington state; or

5 (b) One hundred fifty thousand dollars for a television
6 commercial associated with a national or regional advertisement
7 campaign produced in Washington state.

8 (5) Except as provided otherwise in subsection (7) of this
9 section, maximum funding assistance from the approved motion picture
10 competitiveness program is limited to an amount up to thirty-five
11 percent of the total actual investment of at least three hundred
12 thousand dollars per episode produced in Washington state. A minimum
13 of six episodes of a series must be produced to qualify under this
14 subsection. A maximum of up to thirty percent of the total actual
15 investment from the approved motion picture competitiveness program
16 may be awarded to an episodic series of less than six episodes.

17 (6) With respect to costs associated with nonstate labor for
18 motion pictures and episodic services, funding assistance from the
19 approved motion picture competitiveness program is limited to an
20 amount up to fifteen percent of the total actual investment used for
21 costs associated with nonstate labor. To qualify under this
22 subsection, the production must have a labor force of at least
23 eighty-five percent of Washington residents. The board may establish
24 additional criteria to maximize the use of in-state labor.

25 (7)(a) The approved motion picture competitiveness program may
26 allocate an annual aggregate of no more than ten percent of the
27 qualifying contributions by the program under RCW 82.04.4489 to
28 provide funding support for filmmakers who are Washington residents,
29 new forms of production, and emerging technologies.

30 (i) Up to thirty percent of the actual investment for a motion
31 picture with an actual investment lower than that of motion pictures
32 under subsection (4)(a) of this section; or

33 (ii) Up to thirty percent of the actual investment of an
34 interactive motion picture intended for multiplatform exhibition and
35 distribution.

36 (b) Subsections (4) and (5) of this section do not apply to this
37 subsection.

38 (8) Funding assistance approval must be determined by the
39 approved motion picture competitiveness program within a maximum of

1 thirty calendar days from when the application is received, if the
2 application is submitted after August 15, 2006.

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