

HB 3944 (Sims)

Grow Illinois' Film Industry and Workforce

No industry is ready to take off coming out of the pandemic like the film industry with demand for content at increasing highs, particularly as companies look to Illinois as ideal location to create content. Passing this legislation will mean:

- New high-paying jobs, with an emphasis on jobs for women and minorities
- Increased supply chains that support small businesses
- Increased creative content production in film and television
- Workforce development & training funded by the industry

A broad coalition of industry, labor, business, and education stakeholders are supporting SB 3944 (Sims) to grow Illinois' film industry and its workforce:

- From 2012-2019, we saw a 280% in Illinois spending because of the film tax credit with 2019 seeing a record \$550 million invested because of the tax credit, and more than 15,000 jobs tied directly to the tax credit. This legislation would put Illinois on the path to \$1 billion in direct Illinois spend, while creating new high-paying and union jobs for minorities and women.
- The return on investment is significant. From 2010-2019, for every dollar in foregone revenue to the State, or tax expenditures, the film credit has generated on average \$11.5 dollars in direct spending in Illinois.
- A revised incentive program, expanded workforce, and additional soundstage infrastructure, (which is being supported by the Rebuild Illinois capital plan) will enable Illinois to capture a larger portion of the market share and remain competitive with current and emerging production centers in North America.

How SB 3944 will Provide Tools for Growth in Illinois'

- Provides for a modest expansion of the current Illinois Film Production Tax Credit to allow wages for a limited number of non-residents qualify for the credit, which would put us on par with other competing states in this sector, such as Georgia, Louisiana, New Jersey, and New Mexico.
- Creates the Illinois Production Workforce Development Fund, which is funded entirely by the industry. 50% of the grant funds must be allocated to minority-owned organizations or educational/training programs whose participants represent a minimum of 50% minorities.

Economic Benefits of the Industry: An Example of the Many Production Partners in Illinois

According to data provided by NBC Universal/Comcast in 8 years since the onset of the production of their One Chicago franchise in 2012 (Chicago Fire, P.D. and Med)

- Total economic activity in Illinois: \$2.1 billion
- Total employment of Illinois residents: 17,200 FTE positions
- Total labor income for Illinois residents: More than 1.17B
- One Chicago Direct Suppliers: Over 7,000 Illinois businesses
- Total contributions to Illinois GSP \$1.57 billion

Support for SB 3944 (Sims) To Grow Illinois' Film Industry and Workforce

