

**Statement of Mickey Rowley, Deputy Secretary  
for Tourism, Economic Development Marketing and Film Office  
Before the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee  
Harrisburg, PA  
June 17, 2009**

We applaud the LBFC for the study entitled Film Industry Analysis of May, 2009 which provides in-depth look at one of the Commonwealth's more visible tax incentive programs. The findings of the LBFC report validate the wisdom and efficacy of Governor Rendell and PA Legislature's the 2007 economic development initiative in film and television, what we now know to be one of Pennsylvania's most fertile industries.

LBFC's careful analysis of the film industry in Pennsylvania documents the economic activity and job creation generated by the Film Tax Credit, putting to rest once and for all any claims to the contrary. Moreover, those jobs pay higher wages than comparable employment using the same skills. Finally, the report validates the industry's place in the Commonwealth's economy and prospects for the future despite intense competition from many other states.

If the Film Tax Credit is cut or eliminated, in addition to losing jobs and economic activity, Pennsylvania will lose its competitive position and the future that it represents for Pennsylvania residents, businesses and communities. As ERA noted, "the costs of redeveloping such a capacity at a future point is likely to be much more costly than supporting and building on current economic capacity."

We recognize that the PA General Assembly is facing enormous pressure in the current fiscal environment to cut programs or raise taxes. We believe the findings of the LBFC report make it abundantly clear that now is NOT the time to cut back on a program that generates jobs or to raise taxes on this vibrant and promising industry.