[Third Reprint] SENATE, No. 122

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2018 SESSION

Sponsored by: Senator LORETTA WEINBERG District 37 (Bergen) Senator PAUL A. SARLO District 36 (Bergen and Passaic) Assemblyman GORDON M. JOHNSON District 37 (Bergen) Assemblyman PAUL D. MORIARTY District 4 (Camden and Gloucester) Assemblyman LOUIS D. GREENWALD District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Brown, Addiego, Gopal, Ruiz, Gill, Greenstein, Gordon, Turner, Assemblymen Calabrese, Giblin, Assemblywomen Vainieri Huttle, Murphy, Assemblymen Andrzejczak, Land, Chiaravalloti, Houghtaling, Senator Lagana and Assemblywoman Quijano

SYNOPSIS

Provides corporation business tax and gross income tax credit for certain expenses incurred for production of certain films and digital media content; designated as Garden State Film and Digital Media Jobs Act.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As amended on June 7, 2018 by the Senate pursuant to the Governor's recommendations.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/26/2018)

AN ACT providing a credit against the corporation business tax and
 the gross income tax for certain expenses incurred for the
 production of certain films and digital media content and
 designated as the Garden State Film and Digital Media Jobs Act,
 supplementing P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-1 et seq.) and Title
 54A of the New Jersey Statutes ¹and repealing various parts of
 the statutory law¹.

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BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

12 1. a. (1) A taxpayer, upon approval of an application to the 13 authority and the director, shall be allowed a credit against the tax 14 imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5) in 15 an amount equal to 30 percent of the qualified film production 16 expenses of the taxpayer during a privilege period commencing on 17 or after July 1, 2018 but before July 1, 2023, provided that:

(a) at least 60 percent of the total film production expenses,
exclusive of post-production costs, of the taxpayer are incurred for
services performed, and goods purchased through vendors
authorized to do business, in New Jersey, or the qualified film
production expenses of the taxpayer during the privilege period
exceed \$1,000,000 per production;

(b) principal photography of the film commences within the
earlier of 180 days from the date of the original application for the
tax credit, or 150 days from the date of approval of the application
for the tax credit;

(c) the film includes, when determined to be appropriate by the
commission, at no cost to the State, marketing materials promoting
this State as a film and entertainment production destination, which
materials shall include placement of a "Filmed in New Jersey" or
"Produced in New Jersey" statement ¹, or an approved logo
approved by the Commission,¹ in the end credits of the film;

34 (d) the taxpayer submits a tax credit verification report prepared
35 by an independent certified public accountant licensed in this State
36 in accordance with subsection f. of this section; and

(e) the taxpayer complies with the withholding requirements
provided for payments to loan out companies and independent
contractors in accordance with subsection g. of this section.

40 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) of this 41 subsection a. to the contrary, the tax credit allowed pursuant to this

Matter underlined <u>thus</u> is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SBA committee amendments adopted March 13, 2018. ²Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted April 5, 2018.

³Senate amendments adopted in accordance with Governor's

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in **bold-faced brackets** [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

recommendations June 7, 2018.

subsection against the tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of 1 2 P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5) shall be in an amount equal to 1 [40] 3 percent for the qualified film production expenses of the taxpayer 4 during a privilege period that represent expenses of the taxpayer 5 incurred in an eligible municipality for the production of a film, 6 including post-production costs of the taxpayer incurred in an 7 eligible municipality] 35 percent of the qualified film production 8 expenses of the taxpayer during a privilege period that are incurred 9 for services performed and tangible personal property purchased 10 through vendors whose primary place of business is located in Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, 11 12 Mercer or Salem County¹. 13 b. (1) A taxpayer, upon approval of an application to the

authority and the director, shall be allowed a credit against the tax
imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5) in
an amount equal to 20 percent of the qualified digital media content
production expenses of the taxpayer during a privilege period
commencing on or after July 1, 2018 but before July 1, 2023,
provided that:

(a) at least \$2,000,000 of the total digital media content
production expenses of the taxpayer are incurred for services
performed, and goods purchased through vendors authorized to do
business, in New Jersey;

(b) at least 50 percent of the qualified digital media content
production expenses of the taxpayer are for wages and salaries paid
to full-time or full-time equivalent employees in New Jersey;

(c) the taxpayer submits a tax credit verification report prepared
by an independent certified public accountant licensed in this State
in accordance with subsection f. of this section; and

30 (d) the taxpayer complies with the withholding requirements
31 provided for payments to loan out companies and independent
32 contractors in accordance with subsection g. of this section.

33 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) of this 34 subsection b. to the contrary, the tax credit allowed pursuant to this 35 subsection against the tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5) shall be in an amount equal to 1 [40] 36 37 percent for the qualified digital media content production expenses 38 of the taxpayer during a privilege period that represent expenses of 39 the taxpayer incurred in an eligible municipality for the production 40 of digital media content] 25 percent of the qualified digital media content production expenses of the taxpayer during a privilege 41 42 period that are incurred for services performed and tangible 43 personal property purchased through vendors whose primary place 44 of business is located in Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, 45 <u>Cumberland, Gloucester, Mercer, or Salem County</u>¹.

46 c. No tax credit shall be allowed pursuant to this section for47 any costs or expenses included in the calculation of any other tax

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credit or exemption granted pursuant to a claim made on a tax 1 2 return filed with the director, or included in the calculation of an 3 award of business assistance or incentive, for a period of time that 4 coincides with the privilege period for which a tax credit authorized pursuant to this section is allowed. The order of priority ¹[of the 5 application of <u>in which</u>¹ the tax credit allowed pursuant to this 6 7 section and any other tax credits allowed by law ¹may be taken¹ 8 shall be as prescribed by the director. The amount of the tax credit 9 applied under this section against the tax imposed pursuant to 10 section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5), for a privilege period, 11 when taken together with any other payments, credits, deductions, 12 and adjustments allowed by law shall not reduce the tax liability of 13 the taxpayer to an amount less than the statutory minimum provided 14 in subsection (e) of section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5). The 15 amount of the tax credit otherwise allowable under this section 16 which cannot be applied for the privilege period due to the 17 limitations of this subsection or under other provisions of P.L.1945, 18 c.162 (C.54:10A-1 et seq.) may be carried forward, if necessary, to 19 the seven privilege periods following the privilege period for which 20 the tax credit was allowed.

21 d. A taxpayer, with an application for a tax credit provided for 22 in subsection a. or subsection b. of this section, may apply to the 23 authority and the director for a tax credit transfer certificate in lieu 24 of the taxpayer being allowed any amount of the tax credit against 25 the tax liability of the taxpayer. The tax credit transfer certificate, 26 upon receipt thereof by the taxpayer from the authority and the 27 director, may be sold or assigned, in full or in part, to any other 28 taxpayer that may have a tax liability under the "Corporation 29 Business Tax Act (1945)," P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-1 et seq.), or 30 the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., in 31 exchange for private financial assistance to be provided by the 32 purchaser or assignee to the taxpayer that has applied for and been 33 granted the tax credit. The tax credit transfer certificate provided to 34 the taxpayer shall include a statement waiving the taxpayer's right 35 to claim that amount of the tax credit against the tax imposed 36 pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5) that the 37 taxpayer has elected to sell or assign. The sale or assignment of any 38 amount of a tax credit transfer certificate allowed under this section 39 shall not be exchanged for consideration received by the taxpayer of 40 less than 75 percent of the transferred tax credit amount. Any 41 amount of a tax credit transfer certificate used by a purchaser or 42 assignee against a tax liability under P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-1 43 et seq.) shall be subject to the same limitations and conditions that 44 apply to the use of a tax credit pursuant to subsection c. of this 45 section. Any amount of a tax credit transfer certificate obtained by 46 a purchaser or assignee under subsection a. or subsection b. of this 47 section may be applied against the purchaser's or assignee's tax 48 liability under N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. and shall be subject to the

1 same limitations and conditions that apply to the use of a credit
2 pursuant to subsections c. and d. of section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.)
2 (nonding before the Legislature of this hill)

3 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

e. (1) The value of tax credits, including tax credits allowed
through the granting of tax credit transfer certificates, approved by
the director and the authority pursuant to subsection a. of this
section and pursuant to subsection a. of section 2 of P.L. ,

8) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall not c. (C. 9 exceed a cumulative total of \$75,000,000 in fiscal year 2019 and in 10 each fiscal year thereafter prior to fiscal year 2024 to apply against 11 the tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 12 (C.54:10A-5) and the tax imposed pursuant to the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. If the cumulative 13 14 total amount of tax credits, and tax credit transfer certificates, allowed to taxpayers for privilege periods or taxable years 15 16 commencing during a single fiscal year under subsection a. of this 17 section and subsection a. of section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.) 18 (pending before the Legislature as this bill) exceeds the amount of 19 tax credits available in that fiscal year, then taxpayers who have 20 first applied for and have not been allowed a tax credit or tax credit transfer certificate amount for that reason shall be allowed, in the 21 22 order in which they have submitted an application, the amount of 23 tax credit or tax credit transfer certificate on the first day of the next 24 succeeding fiscal year in which tax credits and tax credit transfer 25 certificates under subsection a. of this section and subsection a. of 26 section 2 of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as 27 this bill) are not in excess of the amount of credits available.

(2) The value of tax credits, including tax credits allowed
through the granting of tax credit transfer certificates, approved by
the authority and the director pursuant to subsection b. of this
section and pursuant to subsection b. of section 2 of P.L. ,

32) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall not c. (C. 33 exceed a cumulative total of \$10,000,000 in fiscal year 2019 and in 34 each fiscal year thereafter prior to fiscal year 2024 to apply against 35 the tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 36 (C.54:10A-5) and the tax imposed pursuant to the "New Jersey 37 Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. If the total amount 38 of tax credits and tax credit transfer certificates allowed to 39 taxpayers for privilege periods or taxable years commencing during a single fiscal year under subsection b. of this section and 40 41 subsection b. of section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before 42 the Legislature as this bill) exceeds the amount of tax credits 43 available in that year, then taxpayers who have first applied for and 44 have not been allowed a tax credit or tax credit transfer certificate 45 amount for that reason shall be allowed, in the order in which they 46 have submitted an application, the amount of tax credit or tax credit 47 transfer certificate on the first day of the next succeeding fiscal year 48 in which tax credits and tax credit transfer certificates under

subsection b. of this section and subsection b. of section 2 of
 P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) are
 not in excess of the amount of credits available.

4 f. A taxpayer shall submit to the authority and the director a 5 report prepared by an independent certified public accountant licensed in this State to verify the taxpayer's tax credit claim 6 7 following the completion of the production. The report shall be ²[based on a compliance audit conducted] <u>prepared</u>² by the 8 independent certified public accountant pursuant to ²[procedures 9 agreed upon by the taxpayer, the independent certified public 10 accountant, and the authority and the director <u>agreed upon</u> 11 procedures prescribed by the authority and the director²; and shall 12 13 include such information and documentation as shall be determined 14 to be necessary by the authority and the director to substantiate the 15 qualified film production expenses or the qualified digital media 16 content production expenses of the taxpayer. Upon receipt of the 17 report, the authority and the director shall review the findings of the independent certified public accountant's ²[compliance audit] 18 19 report², and shall make a determination as to the qualified film 20 production expenses or the qualified digital media content 21 production expenses of the taxpayer. The determination shall be 22 provided in writing to the taxpayer, and a copy of the written 23 determination shall be included in the filing of a return that includes 24 a claim for a tax credit allowed pursuant to this section.

25 A taxpayer shall withhold from each payment to a loan out g. 26 company or to an independent contractor an amount equal to 6.37 27 percent of the payment otherwise due. The amounts withheld shall 28 be deemed to be withholding of liability pursuant to the "New 29 Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., and the 30 taxpayer shall be deemed to have the rights, duties, and 31 responsibilities of an employer pursuant to chapter 7 of Title 54A of 32 the New Jersey Statutes. The director shall allocate the amounts 33 withheld for a taxable year to the accounts of the individuals who 34 are employees of a loan out company in proportion to the 35 employee's payment by the loan out company in connection with a 36 trade, profession, or occupation carried on in this State or for the 37 rendition of personal services performed in this State during the 38 taxable year. A loan out company that reports its payments to 39 employees in connection with a trade, profession, or occupation 40 carried on in this State or for the rendition of personal services 41 performed in this State during a taxable year shall be relieved of its 42 duties and responsibilities as an employer pursuant to chapter 7 of 43 Title 54A of the New Jersey Statutes for the taxable year for any 44 payments relating to the payments on which the taxpayer withheld.

45 h. As used in this section:

46 "Authority" means the New Jersey Economic Development47 Authority.

"Business assistance or incentive" means "business assistance or
 incentive" as that term is defined pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2007,
 c.101 (C.54:50-39).

4 "Commission" means the Motion Picture and Television5 Development Commission.

"Digital media content" means any data or information that is 6 7 produced in digital form, including data or information created in 8 analog form but reformatted in digital form, text, graphics, 9 photographs, animation, sound $\frac{1}{1}$ and video content. "Digital media content" does not mean content offerings generated by the end user 10 11 (including postings on electronic bulletin boards and chat rooms); 12 content offerings comprised primarily of local news, events, weather $\frac{1}{2}$ or local market reports; public service content; 13 electronic commerce platforms (such as retail and wholesale 14 15 websites); websites or content offerings that contain obscene 16 material as defined pursuant to N.J.S.2C:34-2 and N.J.S.2C:34-3; 17 websites or content that are produced or maintained primarily for private, industrial, corporate $\frac{1}{1}$ or institutional purposes; or digital 18 media content acquired or licensed by the taxpayer for distribution 19 20 or incorporation into the taxpayer's digital media content.

21 ¹["Eligible municipality" means a municipality in this State that 22 has experienced the closure of at least two casino hotel facilities 23 that had been licensed and operated, within the boundaries of the 24 municipality, in accordance with the laws of this State.]¹

"Film" means a feature film, a television series $\frac{1}{2}$ or a television 25 show of 22 minutes or more in length, intended for a national 26 27 audience, or a television series or a television show of 22 minutes or more in length intended for a national or regional audience, 28 29 including, but not limited to, a game show, award show, or other 30 gala event filmed and produced at a nonprofit arts and cultural "Film" shall not include a venue receiving State funding. 31 production featuring news, current events, weather $\frac{1}{1}$ and market 32 reports or public programming, talk show, ³<u>or</u>³ sports event, ³[or 33 reality show,]³ a production that solicits funds, a production 34 35 containing obscene material as defined under N.J.S.2C:34-2 and N.J.S.2C:34-3, or a production primarily for private, industrial, 36 corporate 1, 1 or institutional purposes 3, or a reality show, except if 37 the production company of the reality show owns, leases, or 38 otherwise occupies a production facility of no less than 20,000 39 40 square feet of real property for a minimum term of twenty-four (24) 41 months, and invests no less than \$3,000,000 in such a facility within 42 a designated enterprise zone established pursuant to the "New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zones Act," P.L.1983, c.303 (C.52:27H-60 43 44 et al.), or a UEZ-impacted business district established pursuant to section 3 of P.L.2001, c.347 (C.52:27H-66.2)³. "Film" shall not 45 include 1 [a game show,] <u>an</u> award show 1 [,] or other gala event 46

that is not filmed and produced at a nonprofit arts and cultural
 venue receiving State funding.

3 "Full-time or full-time equivalent employee" means an 4 individual employed by the taxpayer for consideration for at least 5 35 hours a week, or who renders any other standard of service generally accepted by custom or practice as full-time or full-time 6 7 equivalent employment, whose wages are subject to withholding as 8 provided in the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 9 et seq., or who is a partner of a taxpayer, who works for the 10 partnership for at least 35 hours a week, or who renders any other 11 standard of service generally accepted by custom or practice as full-12 time or full-time equivalent employment, and whose distributive 13 share of income, gain, loss, or deduction, or whose guaranteed 14 payments, or any combination thereof, is subject to the payment of 15 estimated taxes, as provided in the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax 16 Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. "Full-time or full-time equivalent 17 employee" shall not include an individual who works as an 18 independent contractor or on a consulting basis for the taxpayer.

19 "Highly compensated individual" means an individual who 20 directly or indirectly receives compensation in excess of 21 ¹[\$1,500,000] <u>\$500,000</u>¹ for the performance of services used 22 directly in a production. An individual receives compensation 23 indirectly when the taxpayer pays a loan out company that, in turn, 24 pays the individual for the performance of services.

25 "Independent contractor" means an individual treated as an
26 independent contractor for federal and State tax purposes who is
27 contracted with by the taxpayer for the performance of services
28 used directly in a production.

29 "Loan out company" means a personal service corporation or 30 other entity that is contracted with by the taxpayer to provide 31 specified individual personnel, such as artists, crew, actors, 32 producers, or directors for the performance of services used directly 33 in a production. "Loan out company" does not include entities 34 contracted with by the taxpayer to provide goods or ancillary 35 contractor services such as catering, construction, trailers, 36 equipment, or transportation.

37 "Partnership" means an entity classified as a partnership for38 federal income tax purposes.

39 "Post-production costs" means the costs of the phase of
40 production of a film that follows principal photography, in which
41 raw footage is cut and assembled into a finished film with sound
42 synchronization and visual effects.

43 "Pre-production costs" means the costs of the phase of
44 production of a film that precedes principal photography, in which a
45 detailed schedule and budget for the production is prepared, the
46 script and location is finalized, and contracts with vendors are
47 negotiated.

1 "Qualified digital media content production expenses" means an 2 expense incurred in New Jersey for the production of digital media 3 "Qualified digital media content production expenses" content. shall include but shall not be limited to $\frac{1}{2}$ wages and salaries of 4 individuals employed in the production of digital media content on 5 which the tax imposed by the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," 6 7 N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. has been paid or is due; and the costs of 8 computer software and hardware, data processing, visualization 9 technologies, sound synchronization, editing, and the rental of 10 facilities and equipment. Payment made to a loan out company or 11 to an independent contractor shall not be a "qualified digital media 12 content production expense" unless the payment is made in 13 connection with a trade, profession, or occupation carried on in this 14 State or for the rendition of personal services performed in this 15 State and the taxpayer has made the withholding required by 16 subsection g. of this section. "Qualified digital media content 17 production expenses" shall not include expenses incurred in 18 marketing, promotion, or advertising digital media or other costs 19 not directly related to the production of digital media content. Costs related to the acquisition or licensing of digital media content 20 21 by the taxpayer for distribution or incorporation into the taxpayer's digital media content shall not be "qualified digital media content 22 23 production expenses."

24 "Qualified film production expenses" means an expense incurred 25 in New Jersey for the production of a film including pre-production 26 costs and post-production costs incurred in New Jersey. "Qualified 27 film production expenses" shall include but shall not be limited to: 28 wages and salaries of individuals employed in the production of a 29 film on which the tax imposed by the "New Jersey Gross Income 30 Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. has been paid or is due; and the 31 costs for tangible personal property used, and services performed, 32 directly and exclusively in the production of a film, such as 33 expenditures for film production facilities, props, makeup, 34 wardrobe, film processing, camera, sound recording, set 35 construction, lighting, shooting, editing, and meals. Payment made 36 to a loan out company or to an independent contractor shall not be a 37 "qualified film production expense" unless the payment is made in 38 connection with a trade, profession, or occupation carried on in this 39 State or for the rendition of personal services performed in this 40 State and the taxpayer has made the withholding required by 41 subsection g. of this section. "Qualified film production expenses" 42 shall not include: expenses incurred in marketing or advertising a 43 film; and payment in excess of 1 [\$1,500,000] <u>\$500,000</u>¹ to a highly 44 compensated individual for costs for a story, script, or scenario used 45 in the production of a film and wages or salaries or other 46 compensation for writers, directors, including music directors, 47 producers, and performers, other than background actors with no 48 scripted lines.

"Total digital media content production expenses" means costs

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2 for services performed and property used or consumed in the 3 production of digital media content. 4 "Total film production expenses" means costs for services 5 performed and tangible personal property used or consumed in the production of a film. 6 7 ²<u>i. A business that is not a "taxpayer" as defined and used in the</u> 8 "Corporation Business Tax Act (1945)" P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-9 1 et seq.) and therefore is not directly allowed a credit under this 10 section, but is a business entity that is classified as a partnership for 11 federal income tax purposes and is ultimately owned by a business 12 entity that is a "corporation" as defined in subsection (c) of section 4 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-4), or a limited liability company 13 14 formed under the "Revised Uniform Limited Liability Company 15 Act," P.L.2012, c.50 (C.42:2C-1 et seq.), or qualified to do business 16 in this State as a foreign limited liability company, with one 17 member, and is wholly owned by the business entity that is a 18 "corporation" as defined in subsection (c) of section 4 of P.L.1945, 19 c.162 (C.54:10A-4), but otherwise meets all other requirements of 20 this section, shall be considered an eligible applicant and "taxpayer" as that term is used in this section.² 21 22 23 2. a. (1) A taxpayer, upon approval of an application to the 24 authority and the director, shall be allowed a credit against the tax 25 otherwise due for the taxable year under the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., in an amount equal to 30 26 27 percent of the qualified film production expenses of the taxpayer 28 during a taxable year commencing on or after July 1, 2018 but 29 before July 1, 2023, provided that: 30 (a) at least 60 percent of the total film production expenses, 31 exclusive of post-production costs, of the taxpayer are incurred for 32 services performed, and goods purchased through vendors 33 authorized to do business, in New Jersey, or the qualified film 34 production expenses of the taxpayer during the taxable year exceed 35 \$1,000,000 per production; 36 (b) principal photography of the film commences within the 37 earlier of 180 days from the date of the original application for the 38 tax credit, or 150 days from the date of approval of the application 39 for the tax credit; 40 (c) the film includes, when determined to be appropriate by the

(c) the film includes, when determined to be appropriate by the
commission, at no cost to the State, marketing materials promoting
this State as a film and entertainment production destination, which
materials shall include placement of a "Filmed in New Jersey" or
"Produced in New Jersey" statement ¹, or an appropriate logo
approved by the Commission,¹ in the end credits of the film;

1 (d) the taxpayer submits a tax credit verification report prepared 2 by an independent certified public accountant licensed in this State 2 in accordance with subsection 15 f J a 1 of this section; and

3 in accordance with subsection 1 [f.] <u>g.</u> 1 of this section; and

4 (e) the taxpayer complies with the withholding requirements
5 provided for payments to loan out companies and independent
6 contractors in accordance with subsection ¹[g.] <u>h.</u>¹ of this section.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) of this 7 8 subsection a. to the contrary, the tax credit allowed pursuant to this 9 subsection against the tax otherwise due for the taxable year under the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., 10 shall be in an amount equal to ¹[40 percent for the qualified film 11 production expenses of the taxpayer during a taxable year that 12 13 represent expenses of the taxpayer incurred in an eligible 14 municipality for the production of a film, including post-production costs of the taxpayer incurred in an eligible municipality] 35 15 percent of the qualified film production expenses of the taxpayer 16 17 during a taxable year that are incurred for services performed and 18 tangible personal property purchased through vendors whose 19 primary place of business is located in Atlantic, Burlington, 20 Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Mercer, or Salem 21 County¹.

b. (1) A taxpayer, upon approval of an application to the
authority and the director, shall be allowed a credit against the tax
otherwise due for the taxable year under the "New Jersey Gross
Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., in an amount equal to 20
percent of the qualified digital media content production expenses
of the taxpayer during a taxable year commencing on or after July
1, 2018 but before July 1, 2023, provided that:

(a) at least \$2,000,000 of the total digital media content
production expenses of the taxpayer are incurred for services
performed, and goods purchased through vendors authorized to do
business, in New Jersey;

33 (b) at least 50 percent of the qualified digital media content
34 production expenses of the taxpayer are for wages and salaries paid
35 to full-time or full-time equivalent employees in New Jersey;

36 (c) the taxpayer submits a tax credit verification report prepared
37 by an independent certified public accountant licensed in this State
38 in accordance with subsection g. of this section; and

39 (d) the taxpayer complies with the withholding requirements
40 provided for payments to loan out companies and independent
41 contractors in accordance with subsection h. of this section.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) of this
subsection b. to the contrary, the tax credit allowed pursuant to this
subsection against the tax otherwise due for the taxable year under
the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq.,
shall be in an amount equal to ¹[40 percent for the qualified digital
media content production expenses of the taxpayer during a taxable

year that represent expenses of the taxpayer incurred in an eligible 1 2 municipality for the production of digital media content] 25 percent 3 for the qualified digital media content production expenses of the 4 taxpayer during a taxable year that are incurred for services 5 performed and tangible personal property purchased through 6 vendors whose primary place of business is located in Atlantic, 7 Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Mercer, 8 or Salem County¹.

9 c. No tax credit shall be allowed pursuant to this section for 10 any costs or expenses included in the calculation of any other tax 11 credit or exemption granted pursuant to a claim made on a tax 12 return filed with the director, or included in the calculation of an 13 award of business assistance or incentive, for a period of time that 14 coincides with the taxable year for which a tax credit authorized 15 pursuant to this section is allowed. The order of priority ¹[of the application of <u>in which</u>¹ the tax credit allowed pursuant to this 16 17 section and any other tax credits allowed by law ¹may be taken¹ 18 shall be as prescribed by the director. The amount of the tax credit 19 applied under this section against the tax otherwise due under the 20 "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., for a 21 taxable year, when taken together with any other payments, credits, 22 deductions, and adjustments allowed by law shall not reduce the tax 23 liability of the taxpayer to an amount less than zero. The amount of 24 the tax credit otherwise allowable under this section which cannot 25 be applied for the taxable year due to the limitations of this 26 subsection or under other provisions of N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., may 27 be carried forward, if necessary, to the seven taxable years 28 following the taxable year for which the tax credit was allowed.

29 d. (1) A business entity that is classified as a partnership for 30 federal income tax purposes shall not be allowed a tax credit 31 pursuant to this section directly, but the amount of tax credit of a 32 taxpayer in respect of a distributive share of entity income, shall be 33 determined by allocating to the taxpayer that proportion of the tax 34 credit acquired by the entity that is equal to the taxpayer's share, 35 whether or not distributed, of the total distributive income or gain 36 of the entity for its taxable year ending within or with the taxpayer's 37 taxable year.

38 (2) A New Jersey S Corporation shall not be allowed a tax credit 39 pursuant to this section directly, but the amount of tax credit of a 40 taxpayer in respect of a pro rata share of S Corporation income, 41 shall be determined by allocating to the taxpayer that proportion of 42 the tax credit acquired by the New Jersey S Corporation that is 43 equal to the taxpayer's share, whether or not distributed, of the total 44 pro rata share of S Corporation income of the New Jersey S 45 Corporation for its privilege period ending within or with the 46 taxpayer's taxable year.

²A business entity that is not a gross income "taxpayer" as 1 2 defined and used in the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," 3 N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., and therefore is not directly allowed a credit 4 under this section, but otherwise meets all the other requirements of 5 this section, shall be considered an eligible applicant and "taxpayer" 6 as that term is used in this section, and the application of an 7 otherwise allowed credit amount shall be distributed to appropriate 8 gross income taxpayers pursuant to the other requirements of this 9 subsection.²

10 e. A taxpayer, with an application for a tax credit provided for in subsection a. or subsection b. of this section, may apply to the 11 12 authority and the director for a tax credit transfer certificate in lieu 13 of the taxpayer being allowed any amount of the tax credit against 14 the tax liability of the taxpayer. The tax credit transfer certificate, 15 upon receipt thereof by the taxpayer from the authority and the 16 director, may be sold or assigned, in full or in part, to any other 17 taxpayer that may have a tax liability under the "New Jersey Gross 18 Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., or the "Corporation 19 Business Tax Act (1945)," P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-1 et seq.), in 20 exchange for private financial assistance to be provided by the 21 purchaser or assignee to the taxpayer that has applied for and been 22 granted the tax credit. The tax credit transfer certificate provided to 23 the taxpayer shall include a statement waiving the taxpayer's right 24 to claim that amount of the tax credit against the tax imposed 25 pursuant to N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. that the taxpayer has elected to 26 sell or assign. The sale or assignment of any amount of a tax credit 27 transfer certificate allowed under this section shall not be 28 exchanged for consideration received by the taxpayer of less than 29 75 percent of the transferred tax credit amount. Any amount of a 30 tax credit transfer certificate used by a purchaser or assignee against 31 a tax liability under N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. shall be subject to the 32 same limitations and conditions that apply to the use of a tax credit 33 pursuant to subsections c. and d. of this section. Any amount of a 34 tax credit transfer certificate obtained by a purchaser or assignee 35 under this subsection e. may be applied against the purchaser's or 36 assignee's tax liability under P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-1 et seq.) 37 and shall be subject to the same limitations and conditions that 38 apply to the use of a credit pursuant to subsection c. of section 1 of) (pending before the Legislature as this bill). 39 P.L., c. (C. 40 (1) The value of tax credits, including tax credits allowed f.

through the granting of tax credit transfer certificates, approved by
the director and the authority pursuant to subsection a. of this
section and pursuant to subsection a. of section 1 of P.L. ,
c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall not

exceed a cumulative total of \$75,000,000 in fiscal year 2019 and in
each fiscal year thereafter prior to fiscal year 2024 to apply against
the tax imposed pursuant to the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax
Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., and pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945,

c.162 (C.54:10A-5). If the cumulative total amount of tax credits, 1 2 and tax credit transfer certificates, allowed to taxpayers for taxable 3 years or privilege periods commencing during a single fiscal year 4 under subsection a. of this section and subsection a. of section 1 of 5 , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) P.L. 6 exceeds the amount of tax credits available in that fiscal year, then taxpayers who have first applied for and have not been allowed a 7 8 tax credit or tax credit transfer certificate amount for that reason 9 shall be allowed, in the order in which they have submitted an 10 application, the amount of tax credit or tax credit transfer certificate 11 on the first day of the next succeeding fiscal year in which tax 12 credits and tax credit transfer certificates under subsection a. of this 13 section and subsection a. of section 1 of P.L. (C. , c. 14 (pending before the Legislature as this bill) are not in excess of the 15 amount of credits available.

(2) The value of tax credits, including tax credits allowed
through the granting of tax credit transfer certificates, approved by
the authority and the director pursuant to subsection b. of this
section and pursuant to subsection b. of section 1 of P.L. ,

20) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall not c. (C. 21 exceed a cumulative total of \$10,000,000 in fiscal year 2019 and in 22 each fiscal year thereafter prior to fiscal year 2024 to apply against 23 the tax imposed pursuant to the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax 24 Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. and the tax imposed pursuant to section 25 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5). If the total amount of tax credits 26 and tax credit transfer certificates allowed to taxpayers for taxable 27 years or privilege periods commencing during a single fiscal year 28 under subsection b. of this section and subsection b. of section 2 of 29) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) P.L. , c. (C. 30 exceeds the amount of tax credits available in that year, then 31 taxpayers who have first applied for and have not been allowed a 32 tax credit or tax credit transfer certificate amount for that reason 33 shall be allowed, in the order in which they have submitted an 34 application, the amount of tax credit or tax credit transfer certificate 35 on the first day of the next succeeding fiscal year in which tax 36 credits and tax credit transfer certificates under subsection b. of this 37 section and subsection b. of section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.) 38 (pending before the Legislature as this bill) are not in excess of the 39 amount of credits available.

40 g. A taxpayer shall submit to the authority and the director a 41 report prepared by an independent certified public accountant 42 licensed in this State to verify the taxpayer's tax credit claim following the completion of the production. The report shall be 43 ²[based on a compliance audit conducted] <u>prepared</u>² by the 44 independent certified public accountant pursuant to ²[procedures 45 agreed upon by the taxpayer, the independent certified public 46 47 accountant, and the authority and the director] agreed upon procedures prescribed by the authority and the director²; and shall 48

1 include such information and documentation as shall be determined 2 to be necessary by the authority and the director to substantiate the 3 qualified film production expenses or the qualified digital media 4 content production expenses of the taxpayer. Upon receipt of the 5 report, the authority and the director shall review the findings of the 6 independent certified public accountant's ²[compliance audit] 7 report², and shall make a determination as to the qualified film production expenses or the qualified digital media content 8 9 production expenses of the taxpayer. The determination shall be 10 provided in writing to the taxpayer, and a copy of the written determination shall be included in the filing of a return that includes 11 12 a claim for a tax credit allowed pursuant to this section.

13 h. A taxpayer shall withhold from each payment to a loan out 14 company or to an independent contractor an amount equal to 6.37 15 percent of the payment otherwise due. The amounts withheld shall be deemed to be withholding of liability pursuant to the "New 16 17 Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., and the 18 taxpayer shall be deemed to have the rights, duties, and 19 responsibilities of an employer pursuant to chapter 7 of Title 54A of 20 the New Jersey Statutes. The director shall allocate the amounts 21 withheld for a taxable year to the accounts of the individuals who 22 are employees of a loan out company in proportion to the 23 employee's payment by the loan out company in connection with a 24 trade, profession, or occupation carried on in this State or for the 25 rendition of personal services performed in this State during the taxable year. A loan out company that reports its payments to 26 27 employees in connection with a trade, profession, or occupation 28 carried on in this State or for the rendition of personal services 29 performed in this State during a taxable year shall be relieved of its 30 duties and responsibilities as an employer pursuant to chapter 7 of 31 Title 54A of the New Jersey Statutes for the taxable year for any 32 payments relating to the payments on which the taxpayer withheld. 33

i. As used in this section:
"Authority" means the New Jersey Economic Development
Authority.

36 "Business assistance or incentive" means "business assistance or
37 incentive" as that term is defined pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2007,
38 c.101 (C.54:50-39).

39 "Commission" means the Motion Picture and Television40 Development Commission.

"Digital media content" means any data or information that is 41 42 produced in digital form, including data or information created in 43 analog form but reformatted in digital form, text, graphics, photographs, animation, sound $\frac{1}{2}$ and video content. "Digital media 44 45 content" does not mean content offerings generated by the end user 46 (including postings on electronic bulletin boards and chat rooms); 47 content offerings comprised primarily of local news, events, 48 weather or local market reports; public service content; electronic

1 commerce platforms (such as retail and wholesale websites); 2 websites or content offerings that contain obscene material as 3 defined pursuant to N.J.S.2C:34-2 and N.J.S.2C:34-3; websites or 4 content that are produced or maintained primarily for private, 5 industrial, corporate $\frac{1}{2}$ or institutional purposes; or digital media 6 content acquired or licensed by the taxpayer for distribution or 7 incorporation into the taxpayer's digital media content.

8 ¹["Eligible municipality" means a municipality in this State that 9 has experienced the closure of at least two casino hotel facilities 10 that had been licensed and operated, within the boundaries of the 11 municipality, in accordance with the laws of this State.]¹

"Film" means a feature film, a television series $\frac{1}{1}$ or a television 12 show of 22 minutes or more in length, intended for a national 13 14 audience, or a television series or a television show of 22 minutes 15 or more in length intended for a national or regional audience, 16 including, but not limited to, a game show, award show, or other 17 gala event filmed and produced at a nonprofit arts and cultural 18 venue receiving State funding. "Film" shall not include a production featuring news, current events, weather $\frac{1}{1}$ and market 19 reports or public programming, talk show, sports event, or reality 20 21 show, a production that solicits funds, a production containing 22 obscene material as defined under N.J.S.2C:34-2 and N.J.S.2C:34-23 3, or a production primarily for private, industrial, corporate $\frac{1}{1}$ or institutional purposes. "Film" shall not include ¹[a game show,] 24 25 an^1 award show ${}^1[,]^1$ or other gala event that is not filmed and produced at a nonprofit arts and cultural venue receiving State 26 27 funding.

28 "Full-time or full-time equivalent employee" means an 29 individual employed by the taxpayer for consideration for at least 30 35 hours a week, or who renders any other standard of service 31 generally accepted by custom or practice as full-time or full-time 32 equivalent employment, whose wages are subject to withholding as 33 provided in the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 34 et seq., or who is a partner of a taxpayer, who works for the 35 partnership for at least 35 hours a week, or who renders any other 36 standard of service generally accepted by custom or practice as full-37 time or full-time equivalent employment, and whose distributive 38 share of income, gain, loss, or deduction, or whose guaranteed 39 payments, or any combination thereof, is subject to the payment of 40 estimated taxes, as provided in the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. "Full-time or full-time equivalent 41 42 employee" shall not include an individual who works as an 43 independent contractor or on a consulting basis for the taxpayer.

44 "Highly compensated individual" means an individual who
45 directly or indirectly receives compensation in excess of
46 ¹[\$1,500,000] <u>\$500,000</u>¹ for the performance of services used
47 directly in a production. An individual receives compensation

indirectly when the taxpayer pays a loan out company that, in turn,
 pays the individual for the performance of services.

3 "Independent contractor" means an individual treated as an
4 independent contractor for federal and State tax purposes who is
5 contracted with by the taxpayer for the performance of services
6 used directly in a production.

7 "Loan out company" means a personal service corporation or 8 other entity that is contracted with by the taxpayer to provide 9 specified individual personnel, such as artists, crew, actors, 10 producers, or directors for the performance of services used directly 11 in a production. "Loan out company" does not include entities 12 contracted with by the taxpayer to provide goods or ancillary contractor services such as catering, construction, trailers, 13 equipment, or transportation. 14

15 "Partnership" means an entity classified as a partnership for16 federal income tax purposes.

"Post-production costs" means the costs of the phase of
production of a film that follows principal photography, in which
raw footage is cut and assembled into a finished film with sound
synchronization and visual effects.

21 "Pre-production costs" means the costs of the phase of 22 production of a film that precedes principal photography, in which a 23 detailed schedule and budget for the production is prepared, the 24 script and location is finalized, and contracts with vendors are 25 negotiated.

26 "Qualified digital media content production expenses" means an 27 expense incurred in New Jersey for the production of digital media 28 content. "Qualified digital media content production expenses" shall include but shall not be limited to ¹:¹ wages and salaries of 29 individuals employed in the production of digital media content on 30 which the tax imposed by the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," 31 32 N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. has been paid or is due; and the costs of 33 computer software and hardware, data processing, visualization 34 technologies, sound synchronization, editing, and the rental of 35 facilities and equipment. Payment made to a loan out company or 36 to an independent contractor shall not be a "qualified digital media 37 content production expense" unless the payment is made in 38 connection with a trade, profession, or occupation carried on in this 39 State or for the rendition of personal services performed in this 40 State and the taxpayer has made the withholding required by 41 subsection h. of this section. "Qualified digital media content 42 production expenses" shall not include expenses incurred in 43 marketing, promotion, or advertising digital media or other costs 44 not directly related to the production of digital media content. 45 Costs related to the acquisition or licensing of digital media content by the taxpayer for distribution or incorporation into the taxpayer's 46 47 digital media content shall not be "qualified digital media content 48 production expenses."

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1 "Qualified film production expenses" means an expense incurred 2 in New Jersey for the production of a film including pre-production 3 costs and post-production costs incurred in New Jersey. "Qualified 4 film production expenses" shall include but shall not be limited to: 5 wages and salaries of individuals employed in the production of a film on which the tax imposed by the "New Jersey Gross Income 6 7 Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. has been paid or is due; and the 8 costs for tangible personal property used, and services performed, 9 directly and exclusively in the production of a film, such as 10 expenditures for film production facilities, props, makeup, 11 wardrobe, film processing, camera, sound recording, set 12 construction, lighting, shooting, editing, and meals. Payment made 13 to a loan out company or to an independent contractor shall not be a 14 "qualified film production expense" unless the payment is made in 15 connection with a trade, profession, or occupation carried on in this 16 State or for the rendition of personal services performed in this 17 State and the taxpayer has made the withholding required by 18 subsection h. of this section. "Qualified film production expenses" 19 shall not include: expenses incurred in marketing or advertising a film; and payment in excess of 1 [\$1,500,000] <u>\$500,000</u>¹ to a highly 20 21 compensated individual for costs for a story, script, or scenario used 22 in the production of a film and wages or salaries or other 23 compensation for writers, directors, including music directors, 24 producers, and performers, other than background actors with no 25 scripted lines. "Total digital media content production expenses" means costs 26

26 "Total digital media content production expenses" means costs
27 for services performed and property used or consumed in the
28 production of digital media content.

29 "Total film production expenses" means costs for services
30 performed and tangible personal property used or consumed in the
31 production of a film.

32

33 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of the "Administrative 34 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), to the 35 contrary, the New Jersey Economic Development Authority and the 36 Director of the Division of Taxation in the Department of the 37 Treasury may adopt immediately upon filing with the Office of 38 Administrative Law such rules and regulations as the authority or 39 the director shall determine to be necessary to effectuate the 40 purposes of P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), which rules and regulation shall be effective for a period 41 42 not exceeding 360 days following the effective date of 43) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) P.L. , c. (C. 44 and may thereafter be amended, adopted, or readopted by the 45 authority or the director in accordance with the requirements of 46 P.L.1968, 1 c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.).

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1	³ 4. a. A taxpayer, upon approval of an application to the
2	authority and the director, shall be allowed a credit against the tax
3	imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c. 162 (C.54:10A-5) in
4	an amount equal to 2 percent of the qualified film or digital media
5	content production expenses of the taxpayer during a privilege
6	period commencing on or after July 1, 2018 but before July 1, 2023,
7	provided that:
8	(a) the application is accompanied by a diversity plan outlining
9	specific goals, which may include advertising and recruitment
10	actions, for hiring minority persons and women;
11	(b) the director and the authority have approved the plan as
12	meeting the requirements established by the director and the
13	authority; and
14	(c) the director and the authority have verified that the applicant
15	has met or made good-faith efforts in achieving those goals.
16	The director and the authority shall adopt any rules necessary to
17	implement this provision.
18	The application shall indicate whether the applicant intends to
19	participate in training, education, and recruitment programs that are
20	organized in cooperation with State colleges and universities, labor
21	organizations, and the motion picture industry and are designed to
22	promote and encourage the training and hiring of New Jersey
23	residents who represent the diversity of the State population. ³
24	
25	³ [¹ <u>4.</u>] <u>5.</u> ³ <u>The following sections are repealed:</u>
26	Sections 1 and 2 of P.L.2005, c.345 (C.54:10A-5.39 and
27	<u>C.54A:4-12); and</u>
28	Sections 2 and 3 of P.L.2010, c.20 (C.54:10A-5.39a and
29	<u>C.54A:4-12a).</u> ¹
30	
31	¹ [4.] ³ [5 . ¹] 6 . ³ This act shall take effect immediately.