

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 937

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE BLAND MANLOVE.

2061H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 135.750, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to tax credits for qualified motion media projects.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 135.750, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 135.750, to read as follows:

135.750. 1. **This section shall be referred to as the "Show Missouri Film and Digital Media Act".**

2. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

(1) [~~"Highly compensated individual", any individual who receives compensation in excess of one million dollars in connection with a single qualified film production project~~] **"Above-the-line individual", any individual hired or credited on-screen for a qualified motion media production project as any type of producer, principal cast at a Screen Actors Guild Schedule F or above payment rate, screenwriter, or director;**

(2) **"Qualified [film] motion media production project", any film[, video, commercial, or television production] or series production, including videos, commercials, video games, webisodes, music videos, content-based mobile applications, virtual reality, augmented reality, multimedia, and new media, as well as standalone visual effects and postproduction for such motion media production project, as approved by the department of economic development and the office of the Missouri film commission, that features a statement and logo designated by the department of economic development in the credits of the completed production indicating that the project was produced in Missouri and that is under thirty minutes in length with [an]**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 expected ~~[in-state-expenditure budget]~~ **qualifying expenses** in excess of fifty thousand dollars
19 ~~];~~ or ~~[that]~~ is over thirty minutes in length with ~~[an]~~ expected ~~[in-state-expenditure budget]~~
20 **qualifying expenses** in excess of one hundred thousand dollars. Regardless of the production
21 costs, "qualified ~~[film]~~ **motion media** production project" shall not include any:

- 22 (a) News or current events programming;
23 (b) Talk show;
24 (c) Production produced primarily for industrial, corporate, or institutional purposes,
25 and for internal use;
26 (d) Sports event or sports program;
27 (e) Gala presentation or awards show;
28 (f) Infomercial or any production that directly solicits funds;
29 (g) Political ad;
30 (h) Production that is considered obscene, as defined in section 573.010;

31 (3) "Qualifying expenses", the sum of the total amount spent in this state for the
32 following by a production company in connection with a qualified ~~[film]~~ **motion media**
33 production project:

34 (a) Goods and services leased or purchased by the production company. For goods
35 with a purchase price of twenty-five thousand dollars or more, the amount included in
36 qualifying expenses shall be the purchase price less the fair market value of the goods at the
37 time the production is completed;

38 (b) Compensation and wages paid by the production company on which the
39 production company remitted withholding payments to the department of revenue under
40 chapter 143. For purposes of this section, compensation and wages ~~[shall not include any~~
41 ~~amounts paid to a highly compensated individual]~~ **paid to all above-the-line individuals**
42 **shall be limited to twenty-five percent of the overall qualifying expenses;**

43 (4) "Tax credit", a credit against the tax otherwise due under chapter 143, excluding
44 withholding tax imposed by sections 143.191 to 143.265, or otherwise due under chapter 148;

45 (5) "Taxpayer", any individual, partnership, or corporation as described ~~[in]~~ **under**
46 section 143.441, 143.471, or section 148.370 ~~[that is]~~ subject to the **state income** tax imposed
47 ~~[in]~~ **under** chapter 143 ~~[-excluding withholding tax imposed by sections 143.191 to 143.265,]~~
48 or the tax imposed ~~[in]~~ **under** chapter 148, or any charitable organization which is exempt
49 from federal income tax and whose Missouri unrelated business taxable income, if any, would
50 be subject to the state income tax imposed under chapter 143.

51 ~~[2. For all taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 1999, but ending on or~~
52 ~~before December 31, 2007, a taxpayer shall be granted a tax credit for up to fifty percent of~~
53 ~~the amount of investment in production or production-related activities in any film production~~
54 ~~project with an expected in-state expenditure budget in excess of three hundred thousand~~

55 dollars. ~~For all taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2008, a taxpayer shall be~~
56 ~~allowed a tax credit for up to thirty five percent of the amount of qualifying expenses in a~~
57 ~~qualified film production project. Each film production company shall be limited to one~~
58 ~~qualified film production project per year.]~~

59 **3. (1) For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2024, a taxpayer shall be**
60 **allowed a tax credit equal to twenty percent of qualifying expenses.**

61 **(2) An additional five percent may be earned for qualifying expenses if at least**
62 **fifty percent of the qualified motion media production project is filmed in Missouri.**

63 **(3) An additional five percent may be earned for qualifying expenses if at least**
64 **fifteen percent of the qualified motion media production project that is filmed in**
65 **Missouri is filmed in a rural or blighted area in Missouri.**

66 **(4) An additional five percent may be earned for qualifying expenses if at least**
67 **three departments of the qualified motion media production project hire a Missouri**
68 **resident ready to advance to the next level in a specialized craft position or learn a new**
69 **skillset.**

70 **(5) An additional five percent may be earned for qualifying expenses if the**
71 **department of economic development determines that the script of the qualified motion**
72 **media production project positively markets a city or region of the state, the entire state,**
73 **or a tourist attraction located in the state, and the qualified motion media production**
74 **project provides no fewer than five high-resolution photographs containing the cast,**
75 **with the rights cleared for promotional use by the Missouri film commission,**
76 **accompanied by a list with the title of the production project, location, names and**
77 **titles of the individuals shown in the photographs, and photographer credit.**

78 **(6) The total dollar amount of tax credits authorized under subdivision (1) of this**
79 **subsection shall be increased by ten percent for qualified motion media production**
80 **projects located in a county of the second, third, or fourth class.**

81 **(7) Activities qualifying a taxpayer for the tax credit pursuant to this subsection shall**
82 **be approved by the office of the Missouri film commission and the department of economic**
83 **development.**

84 **[3-] 4. A qualified motion media production project shall not be eligible for tax**
85 **credits under this section unless such project employs at least the following number of**
86 **Missouri registered apprentices or veterans residing in Missouri with transferable**
87 **skills:**

88 **(1) If the qualifying expenses are less than five million dollars, two;**

89 **(2) If the qualifying expenses are at least five million dollars but less than ten**
90 **million dollars, three;**

91 **(3) If the qualifying expenses are at least ten million dollars but less than fifteen**
92 **million dollars, six; or**

93 **(4) If the qualifying expenses are at least fifteen million dollars, eight.**

94 **5.** Taxpayers shall apply for the ~~[film]~~ **motion media** production tax credit by
95 submitting an application to the department of economic development, on a form provided by
96 the department. As part of the application, the expected ~~[in-state expenditures]~~ **qualifying**
97 **expenses** of the qualified ~~[film]~~ **motion media** production project shall be documented. In
98 addition, the application shall include an economic impact statement, showing the economic
99 impact from the activities of the ~~[film]~~ **qualified motion media** production project. Such
100 economic impact statement shall indicate the impact on the region of the state in which the
101 ~~[film]~~ **qualified motion media** production **project** or production **project**-related activities
102 are located and on the state as a whole. **Final applications shall be accompanied by a**
103 **report by a certified public accountant located in and licensed by the state of Missouri,**
104 **prepared at the expense of the applicant, attesting that the amounts in the final**
105 **application are qualifying expenses.**

106 ~~[4. For all taxable years ending on or before December 31, 2007, tax credits certified~~
107 ~~pursuant to subsection 2 of this section shall not exceed one million dollars per taxpayer per~~
108 ~~year, and shall not exceed a total for all tax credits certified of one million five hundred~~
109 ~~thousand dollars per year.]~~ **6.** For all ~~[taxable]~~ **calendar** years beginning on or after January
110 1, ~~[2008]~~ **2024, the total amount of all tax credits** ~~[certified under subsection 1 of]~~
111 **authorized by this section for film production or series production** shall not exceed ~~[a total~~
112 ~~for all tax credits certified of four]~~ **forty million** ~~[five hundred thousand]~~ dollars per **calendar**
113 year. Taxpayers may carry forward unused credits for up to five tax periods, provided all such
114 credits shall be claimed within ten tax periods following the tax period in which the ~~[film]~~
115 **qualified motion media** production **project** or production **project**-related activities for
116 which the credits are certified by the department occurred.

117 ~~[5.]~~ **7.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any taxpayer may sell,
118 assign, exchange, convey or otherwise transfer tax credits allowed in subsection ~~[2]~~ **3** of this
119 section. The taxpayer acquiring the tax credits may use the acquired credits to offset the tax
120 liabilities otherwise imposed by chapter 143, excluding withholding tax imposed by sections
121 143.191 to 143.265, or chapter 148. Unused acquired credits may be carried forward for up to
122 five tax periods, provided all such credits shall be claimed within ten tax periods following
123 the tax period in which the ~~[film]~~ **qualified motion media** production **project** or production
124 **project**-related activities for which the credits are certified by the department occurred.

125 ~~[6.]~~ **8.** Under section 23.253 of the Missouri sunset act:

126 (1) The provisions of the ~~[new]~~ program authorized under this section shall
127 automatically sunset ~~[six years after November 28, 2007]~~ **on December 31, 2030**, unless
128 reauthorized by an act of the general assembly; and

129 (2) If such program is reauthorized, the program authorized under this section shall
130 automatically sunset **on December thirty-first**, twelve years after the effective date of the
131 reauthorization of this section; and

132 (3) This section shall terminate on September first of the calendar year immediately
133 following the calendar year in which the program authorized under this section is sunset; **and**

134 (4) **The provisions of this subsection shall not be construed to limit or in any way**
135 **impair the department's ability to redeem tax credits authorized on or before the date**
136 **the program authorized under this section expires, or a taxpayer's ability to redeem**
137 **such tax credits.**

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