

[Date]

Dear Honorable [Title] [Full Name],

Please support our efforts to preserve funding for the Minnesota Film and Television Board. Funding of the Minnesota Film and Television Board is vital to the survival of the production industry in Minnesota, which employs 4,100 people and generates \$225 million in economic activity each year.

The work of the Minnesota Film & TV Board is an important and successful jobs creation program that brings out-of-state production to Minnesota and also keeps Minnesota filmmakers working in their home state.

The Governor has proposed cutting all operations funding for the Film & TV Board in his supplemental budget proposal. If adopted, the proposal means the end of the Board and its work. The reduction in funding for the Snowbate film production jobs program to \$525,000 from \$1,225,000M in 2010 and elimination thereafter will deal a terrible blow to the film and television industry in our state, will cost our state good jobs, will diminish our economic vitality and will drive more of our young people to leave Minnesota in search of opportunity.

The Film & TV Board supports an industry that includes electricians, carpenters, animators, production designers, photographers, editors, actors, production assistants, caterers, engineers and directors. It is the first stop for a commercial production, TV series, feature film or documentary looking to do business in Minnesota but is also an important resource for Minnesota's own production industry. Companies such as Target, Best Buy, Toro, 3M and Marvin Windows do many millions of dollars of production work in-state because of the infrastructure and crew base that exists here. The Film & TV Board is the portal through which 335 Minnesota production service companies connect with their customers. Closing the Board shuts the door on those businesses and their employees.

As your constituent, I am aware that the state faces very difficult budget choices. Even so, I strongly believe this program represents a modest investment that delivers a tremendous return. I urge that you add your voice in support of this vital program.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Printed name]

[Address]