November 19, 2026

The Honorable Yvette Clarke
Chair, Congressional Black Caucus
2058 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Sharice Davids
Co-Chair, Congressional Native American Caucus
2435 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Grace Meng
Chair, Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus
2468 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Co-Chair, Congressional Native American Caucus
2207 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Adriano Espaillat
Chair, Congressional Hispanic Caucus
2332 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairs Clarke, Meng, Espaillat and Co-Chairs Davids and Cole:

We are a diverse coalition of American filmmakers, producers, festivals, creators' organizations, workforce development organizations, independent streamers, small businesses, and civil rights and social justice organizations working every day to create opportunities for American creators and bring culturally authentic stories to audiences at home and around the world. We applaud Senators Scott and Schiff and Representatives Moran, Sánchez, Jack, Friedman, Carey, Chu, Kustoff, and Suozzi for introducing the bipartisan Motion Picture, Television, and Entertainment Revitalization Act (MPTERA), and we urge Congress to swiftly enact this important legislation into law.

A film may begin with a story, but it takes a community to bring that story to life. It takes the person who writes it, the crew that lights it, and the artist who makes a place and time feel real. It takes editors, drivers, carpenters, hair stylists, caterers, and the small businesses that answer the call when a production comes to town. For many of us, this is not a distant industry measured in box-office receipts. It is our work. It is how we support our families, build businesses, and help our communities tell the world who we are.

As has been well documented, a growing share of film and television production has moved overseas as countries around the world have enacted competitive film incentives to attract those projects and capture the enormous economic and cultural benefits they provide. We all lose when films and shows are produced on High Street instead of Main Street, or in the Alps instead of the Rockies.

According to the Motion Picture Association, feature film productions spend an average of $670,000 a day in the communities where they shoot, while an average television series hires more than 1,800 local workers. These are good jobs, paying 52 percent above the national average, and they are often available to workers without a college degree. Production also supports the small businesses, vendors, restaurants, hotels, transportation companies, and countless other local enterprises that help bring a production to life.

That is a middle-class bulwark worth protecting and promoting, and MPTERA is an opportunity to do so that is within reach and worth pursuing. According to a recent study backed by the U.S. Film and Television Production Coalition, if MPTERA simply brings the United States back to its historic share of 65 percent of global production, it would add almost $250 billion to GDP and support 145,000 jobs each year. If our production share rises higher than that pre-incentive baseline, the gains would be even greater.

This issue directly affects communities across the country, particularly communities that have historically had fewer opportunities to participate fully in the industry. Major production hubs such as Atlanta, Chicago, New York City, New Orleans, and Los Angeles have built diverse creative workforces and business ecosystems around film and television production. Atlanta offers a striking example. Known as the "Hollywood of the South," the city spent a decade as one of the country's top production hubs, attracting productions that created jobs, supported local businesses, and helped build a diverse and globally recognized creative workforce. As competition from country-level film incentives overseas has intensified, domestic production has declined, putting that economic and creative ecosystem at risk.

When production leaves, the impact reaches far beyond a studio lot. A local crew member loses weeks of work. A family-owned business loses a customer. A young person trying to enter the industry loses a first opportunity. Communities lose the economic activity and creative infrastructure that production brings with it.

The stakes are cultural as much as economic.

The power of groundbreaking American storytelling to inspire people of all backgrounds and dismantle harmful stereotypes is well known. *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner* confronted interracial marriage when it was still illegal in seventeen states. *Philadelphia* confronted homophobia at the height of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. And *Stand and Deliver* showed the world how a high school math teacher, Jaime Escalante, helped a class of mostly Hispanic students overcome the bias and low expectations embedded in their education system.

We are still breaking ground. In recent years, American hits like *In the Heights*, *Sinners*, *Everything Everywhere All at Once*, and *Black Panther* have been both cultural phenomena and economic successes, not simply because they feature Black and brown people, but

because they are universal stories that happen to feature Black and brown people. That is progress our predecessors only dreamed of, and we are just getting started.

Storytelling through film and television is one of America's most powerful forms of cultural expression. It can hold up a mirror to our society, challenge us to live up to our values, connect audiences across borders, and create good-paying jobs that support communities in all fifty states. American creators have led the way for generations, and we must make sure America remains the place where they can do that work.

Now we need your leadership. Enacting the Motion Picture, Television, and Entertainment Revitalization Act will help restore America's competitiveness, bring more production and the jobs and economic activity that accompany it back to our communities, and pave the way for the next generation of great American stories and great American creators.

We stand ready to work with you and your colleagues in Congress to advance this vital legislation and see it enacted into law.

Sincerely,

American Black Film Festival

Center for Asian American Media

Collective Moxie

Native American Media Alliance

New York Latino Film Festival

NFLUENCE

Organizations

A Mama's Boy Production

Aikan Acts Films

Aletheia Communications

Allegory Production

ALLvanza

AfroLandTV

Atlanta Film Festival

Atlanta Film Society

Itchy House Films

JXN Film Festival

LA Skins FEST

Learn Filmmaking Network

Mann Robinson Studios

Maponga Studios

Multicultural Media & Correspondents Association

National Black Movie Association

ATX TV Festival

Autumn Bailey Entertainment

Bankable Consulting, LLC

Beyond the Trail Cultural District

Black Entertainment and Sports Lawyers Association (BESLA)

Brand One

CAAMFEST

ChaiFlicks

Cocalecas

ColorCreative

Completion Films

Creative Thought Media

Cultural Connections Film Festival (presented by The Gilchrist Group)

CULTURE CREATORS

DC Asian Pacific American Film Festival

DJ's Corner

Entertainment Industry College Outreach Program (EICOP)

Fast Forward Films

Film 4 Good Fund

Film Independent

For Us By Us Network

National Hispanic Media Coalition

Newark International Film Festival

NewFilmmakers Los Angeles

NICE CROWD

Opulent Studios Sound Producers

Pan-African Film & Arts Festival

Plaza Theatre – Atlanta

RAL Production, LLC

Reel Works

Scene & Heard

SkinsPlex

Surrounded By Water

SYS Strategies & PR

Tara Theatre – Atlanta

TechLatino

The Burns Brothers

The Creative Rehab

The Grindhouse Inc.

The Hispanic Institute

The OTTera Media Group

The Quintessential Gentleman

Full Spectrum Features

Georgia Latino Film Alliance

Georgia Latino International Film Festival

Greater Cleveland Film Commission

Green Canvas Productions

Hipgnosis Song Management

ICON Talks

ICON to ICAN Foundation

Imagine This Women's International Film Festival

Inevitable Foundation

In the Black Network

Interfaith Film Festival

Think Like a Boss Productions

Triple Deuce Recording, LLC

Tuscarora Haudenosaunee

TVEI Network

Undaunted Content

VAULT

Vertex Micro Film Fest

Vibranium Media Group

Visual Communications Media, LLC

WIA

Women in Film (WIF)

Worrell PR

Individuals

Agnes Moss,
Founder & President, National Black Movie Association

Dr. Akemi Jones (aka Kemi Jay),
Voice-over Artist

Alex Bernard,
Producer/CEO,
Think Like a Boss Productions

Anthony Magana,
Filmmaker

Arthur W. Worrell,

Kisha Imani Cameron,
Documentary Producer & Showrunner

KJ Keith,
Director of Operations

Kirsten Shaffer,
CEO, Women in Film

Lakisha Denise Heidelberg,
Filmmaker/Screenwriter/Actor

Lamonia Deanne Brown,

Publicist & Brand Strategist

Autumn Bailey-Ford,
Founder & Producer, Autumn Bailey Entertainment

Betty Simpson,
JXN Film Festival Supporter

Brandon Espy,
Writer/Director/Producer

Brenda Castillo,
President & CEO, National Hispanic Media Coalition

Bryan Terrell Clark,
Actor/Singer

Caitlin McFarland,
Co-Founder & Co-President, ATX TV Festival

Calixto Chinchilla,
Founder & Executive Director, New York Latino Film Festival

Calvin Williams Jr.,
Actor

Cameron Lawson,
Producer

Carla Fitzgerald,
Author/Actress/Screenwriter/Editor /Future Filmmaker

Chiquita Banks, Esq.,
CEO, Bankable Consulting; Adjunct Professor

Chris Escobar,

Filmmaker and Festival Founder

LaSonya Thompson,
Festival Founder

Lisa Mushaw,
Brand Strategist

Mack Wilds,
Actor/Singer-Songwriter/Record Producer

Mann Robinson,
Writer/Director/Producer

Marcus Best,
Brand Strategist

Maximus Wright,
Executive Storyteller/Filmmaker/Entrepreneur/Screenwriter/Producer

Merck Mercuriadis,
Founder, Hipgnosis Song Management

Michael Bolden,
Member of the JXN Film Festival Family

Michael Boatman,
Actor and Author

Michael Maponga,
Executive Producer

Michael Oloyede,
Actor/Producer

Monique Drake,

Executive Director, Atlanta Film Society; Owner, Tara Theatre and Plaza Theatre

Christina Faith,
Director/Writer/Producer

D'Angela Proctor,
Founder, Undaunted Content; Producer

David Katz,
Technology Strategist

David Morgan,
Esq./Founder, MMCA

Deonte Staats,
Writer/Producer

Drac Guiavante,
Cultural Strategist

Emily Gipson,
Co-Founder & Co-President, ATX TV Festival

Eric Thomas,
Founder & Editor-in-Chief, The Quintessential Gentleman

Esther D. Young,
Nonprofit Director/Festival Organizer/Producer

Faith Phillips,
Screenwriter/Producer

Felicia Kelly-Brookins,
Screenwriter/Future Filmmaker

Gabriel Alexis,

JXN Film Festival Friend/Family

Nakia Dillard,
Actor/Producer/Director

Natalie Bullock Brown,
Documentary Filmmaker

Nicole Friday,
President & Co-Founder, NICE CROWD; Co-Founder, American Black Film Festival

Oduduwa Olatunji,
Executive Director, Pan African Film & Arts Festival

Omarr Salgado,
Actor/Filmmaker/COO

Patrice Francois,
Cultural Strategist and Festival Founder

Patricia Gomes,
Producer/Director

Phillip C. Washington,
Filmmaker/Screenwriter/Editor/Actor

Ramel Cotton,
Director/Actor/Screenwriter

Raymond Spencer,
Drone Pilot

Reggie Lochard,
Producer/Writer/Actor

Richie Skye,

Founder, Learn Filmmaking Network

Gabrielle Charles,
Founder and Agency Principal

Garrick Wade,
Brand Partnerships

Greg Cally,
Director/Producer/Screenwriter

Gregory Hernandez,
Founder & CEO, Green Canvas Productions

Gustavo Paredes,
President, The Hispanic Institute

Dr. Haley Rains,
Filmmaker/Professor

Hiram Johnson,
Screenwriter

Idetra Berry,
JXN Film Festival Supporter

J. Alexander Martin,
Co-Founder, FUBU

Jamal Hall,
Director

Jason Matsumoto,
Co-Founder & Co-Executive Director, Full Spectrum Features

JD Williams,
Actor/Director

Jeff Billingsley,

Cultural Brand Strategist/Producer

Rock David,
Director/CEO, Itchy House Films

Ronald Glover,
Producer

Rosa Mendoza,
Founder, President & CEO, ALLvanza

Ruben Peralta Rigaud,
Film Critic & Writer

Samantha Davidson Green,
Film & Theater Director/Educator/Independent Filmmaker

Shawuanna Williams-Walker,
Writer/Producer/Director/Choreographer

Skye Dennis,
Writer/Director/Producer

Soni Ede Williams,
Publicist & Brand Strategist

Stacy Milner,
Founder & CEO, EICOP

Suzen Baraka,
Esq./Actor/Producer/Director

Talamieka Brice,
Filmmaker/Artist/Activist

Talitha Watkins,
President & Head of ColorCreative Management

Tamika Pernell,

Director

Jeff Friday,
Founder, American Black Film Festival; Co-Founder & CEO, NICE CROWD

Jeff Man,
Filmmaker

Jessica Evans,
Filmmaker/Actress/Screenwriter/Casting Agent

Jhonn de La Puente,
Vertex Micro Film Fest

John Burns,
Esq., Co-Founder, The Burns Brothers; Co-Founder, ICON Talks; Co-Founder, ICON to ICAN Foundation

John Hartsfield,
Co-Founder, ICON Talks; Executive Director, ICON to ICAN Foundation

John Williams,
Founder and CEO

Joi Brown,
Founder & CEO, CULTURE CREATORS

Dr. Jose Marquez,
CEO, TechLatino

Julie Ann Crommett,
Founder & CEO, Collective Moxie

Kareem Alston-Rosales,
Founder & Executive Director, Film 4 Good Fund

Actress

Tanya Selvaratnam,
Producer/Director

Terrance Nelson,
CEO, Opulent Studios/Sound Producer

Tia Beasley,
Actress

Todd Mushaw,
Producer

Tobias Truvillion,
Actor/Director

Tonea Stewart,
Actress/Dean Emerita, Alabama State University

Tracy E. Clemons,
Filmmaker/Editor

Tymika Chambliss-Williams,
Writer/Director/Producer/Speaker

Vincent Carlos Gray,
Producer

Vivian Lewis Hardy,
JXN Film Festival Supporter

Wendy Mahoney,
JXN Film Festival Supporter

Kathy O. Lofton,
Writer/Independent Filmmaker/Producer/Actress

Will Sims,
Screenwriter/Filmmaker

Kelly Lynne D'Angelo,
Television Writer

Yvette Moises,
CEO, GALFA

Kenneth Gifford,
Founder, Newark International Film Festival

Dr. Robyn Watson,
Executive Director & CEO, Women in Film & Television Atlanta (WIFTA)

Kevin Lamar,
CEO, Opulent Studios/Sound Producer