

RESOLUTION NO _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO EXTEND THE FLORIDA ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY FINANCIAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM WHICH PROVIDES INCENTIVES TO THE FILM, TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY THAT FOSTERS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND CREATES JOBS; ENCOURAGING THE LEGISLATURE TO CREATE A NEW PROCESS BY WHICH COMPANIES CAN RECEIVE TAX CREDITS; AND PRELIMINARILY IDENTIFYING THIS ISSUE AS A CITY PRIORITY FOR THE 2016 SESSION.

WHEREAS, during the 2010 legislative session, the Florida Legislature enacted Chapter No. 2010-147, Laws of Florida (SB 1752), which created the Florida Entertainment Industry Financial Incentive Program, codified as Section 288.1254, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Entertainment Industry Financial Incentive Program offers tax credits to qualifying film, television and other entertainment industry projects to attract business to and create jobs in the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the 2010 legislation initially allocated \$242 million in tax credits for the program; and

WHEREAS, Section 288.1254 provided that the program was a six- year program, scheduled to begin on July 1, 2010 and to sunset on July 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, due to the success of the program, the Florida Legislature added an additional \$12 million in funding during the 2011 session and an additional \$42 million during the 2012 session for a total of \$296 million; and

WHEREAS, going into the 2013 session, all of the tax credits under the program, totaling the entire \$296 million, had been claimed as conditionally certified by current projects; and

WHEREAS, during the 2013 session, the Florida Legislature did not add funding to the Florida Entertainment Industry Financial Incentive Program, despite substantial lobbying efforts; and

WHEREAS, again during the 2014 session, the Florida Legislature did not add funding to the Florida Entertainment Industry Financial Incentive Program, despite substantial lobbying efforts; and

WHEREAS, currently, no new funding remains available under Florida's Entertainment Industry Financial Incentive Program; and

WHEREAS, since the funding was depleted, the City of Hollywood and the State of Florida have been operating at a competitive disadvantage to the approximately forty (40) states that offer incentives to attract film, television, commercials and other production companies to their state; and

WHEREAS, many production companies no longer consider bringing business to the State of Florida or the City of Hollywood, making it impossible to calculate the actual number of entertainment productions that would have been produced here but for the lack of incentives; and

WHEREAS, businesses and individuals working in industries related to film production are relocating out of the City of Hollywood and the State of Florida to states that are committed to attracting the entertainment industry; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hollywood strongly encourages the Florida Legislature to make a long-term commitment to fund film, television and entertainment incentives in order to reverse loss of opportunities for economic development and job creation associated with such productions; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hollywood City Commission would like to preliminarily identify film, television and entertainment incentive funding as one of the State's critical priorities for the 2016;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA:

Section 1: That it hereby urges the Florida Legislature to extend the Florida Entertainment Industry Financial Incentive Program to such an extent as is necessary to perpetuate a program that is sustainable from year to year and to create a new process by which companies in the film and entertainment industry can receive tax credits.

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Section 2: That it hereby preliminarily identifies the issue set forth in Section 1 above as a City priority for the 2016 state legislative session.

Section 3: That it hereby directs the City Clerk to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Governor, Senate President and House Speaker of the State of Florida, the Florida League of Cities, the Broward League of Cities, and such individuals of the Florida legislature and staff as deemed appropriate by the City Manager, to ensure that the City's position with this regard is clearly received and understood.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2015.

PETER BOBER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

PATRICIA A. CERNY, MMC, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
for the use and reliance of the
City of Hollywood, Florida, only.

JEFFREY P. SHEFFEL, CITY ATTORNEY