

From: "Knight, Wendy" <Wendy.Knight@vermont.gov>
Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at 6:59:07 PM
To: "Bill Botzow" <BBotzow@leg.state.vt.us>
Cc: "Brian Keefe" <BKeefe@leg.state.vt.us>, "Linda Joy Sullivan" <LSullivan@leg.state.vt.us>, "Schirling, Michael" <Michael.Schirling@vermont.gov>
Subject: H854 Commerce Film Amend General#330744 v2

Chairman Botzow:

I'm writing on behalf of the Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) to offer our general support for H854 as amended and attached. Film and television production is a promising industry for Vermont, capable of providing high-paying jobs for Vermonters, a viable career path for young Vermonters, and an economic boost for local businesses and communities.

In recent months, ACCD has been working with the Vermont Production Council and other groups across the state to explore ways that can collectively support film and television production industry in Vermont. We are developing a page on ThinkVermont.com to showcase Vermont's creative economy that will include resources on film and television production. We have been connecting out-of-state producers with in-state production resources. We have plans to organize a film and television production summit later this year to bring together stakeholders to develop an action plan.

We are pursuing these activities because we see value and promise in the film and television production industry as an economic growth driver. A mandated study is not our preference. We appreciate Rep. Keefe's leadership on this initiative, and look forward to working with him, Rep. Sullivan and other legislators to foster a thriving film and television production industry in Vermont.

Please let me know if you have further questions.

My best,
Wendy

Wendy Knight | Commissioner
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