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S.209

Introduced by Senators Brock, Balint, Collamore and Ingalls

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Commerce and trade; economic development

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to revive the Vermont Film Commission.

An act relating to reviving the Vermont Film Commission

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. chapter 26 is added to read:

CHAPTER 26. VERMONT FILM COMMISSION

§ 644. VERMONT FILM COMMISSION; PURPOSE; CREATION

(a) The Vermont Film Commission is created within the Agency of Commerce and Community Development.

(b) The purpose of the Commission is to promote the State of Vermont as a location for commercial film and television production and to facilitate the participation of local individuals and companies in such productions.

§ 645. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION

The Vermont Film Commission has the following powers and duties:

1           (1) to receive funds for the promotion of the State of Vermont as the site  
2           for commercial film and television production and to promote the participation  
3           of local individuals and companies in the productions;

4           (2) to solicit, accept, and expend funds from private sources;

5           (3) to develop and implement both long-range and annual marketing  
6           plans to promote Vermont as the location for commercial film and television  
7           productions;

8           (4) to publicize, through trade publications, other printed, electronic and  
9           computerized media, and by participation in professional conferences, the  
10          advantages of locating commercial film and television productions in Vermont;

11          (5) to actively recruit production companies to make feature films and  
12          television programs in Vermont; and

13          (6) to work with Vermont-based businesses and professionals to develop  
14          and support a thriving Vermont film sector.

15          § 646. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

16          (a)(1) The Vermont Film Commission shall be governed and all of its  
17          powers exercised by a board of directors consisting of at least seven members.

18          (2) The Governor shall appoint two members, the Vermont Council on  
19          the Arts shall appoint two members, and the appointees of the Governor and  
20          the Council shall jointly appoint at least three additional members, at least one  
21          of whom is a member of the Vermont business community.

1           (3) The Governor and the Council shall ensure that the membership of  
2           the Board includes geographic representation of all regions of the State.

3           (4) Vacancies on the Board shall be filled in the same manner as the  
4           original appointment.

5           (b) The Board shall:

6           (1) adopt bylaws for the Commission, including provisions relating to  
7           the terms of Board members;

8           (2) appoint an executive director and such clerical assistance as it deems  
9           advisable and fix their compensation and prescribe their duties;

10          (3) serve without compensation except for expenses actually and  
11          necessarily incurred by them in the performance of their duties;

12          (4) hold regular meetings, and hold special meetings that it deems  
13          necessary, at which a majority of the directors constitutes a quorum for the  
14          transaction of any business unless the bylaws of the Commission require a  
15          larger number; and

16          (5) adopt rules, not inconsistent with law, to carry out the purposes of  
17          this chapter.

18          § 647. ANNUAL REPORT

19          (a) Annually, on or before March 1, the Board of Directors of the Vermont  
20          Film Commission shall submit a report to the Agency of Commerce and

1 Community Development and to the General Assembly for the prior 12-month  
2 period.

3 (b) The report shall describe activities of the Board during the preceding  
4 year and shall also include an accounting of revenues received by and  
5 expenditures of the Board and plans to minimize future State funding of the  
6 Commission's activities.

7 Sec. 2. STUDY; REPORT

8 On or before January 15, 2023, the Vermont Film Commission shall study  
9 and submit a report to the House Committee on Commerce and Economic  
10 Development and to the Senate Committee on Economic Development,  
11 Housing and General Affairs that includes the Commission's findings and  
12 recommendations on how to nurture a successful film industry in this State and  
13 what incentives, programs, and infrastructure are necessary to entice film  
14 production in Vermont.

15 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

16 This act shall take effect on passage.