

HB 937 -- SHOW MISSOURI FILM AND DIGITAL MEDIA ACT

SPONSOR: Bland Manlove

This bill establishes the "Show Missouri Film and Digital Media Act". This bill reauthorizes a tax credit for certain expenses related to the production of qualified motion media production projects, as defined in the bill. Tax credits for such expenses under previous law expired on November 28, 2013.

For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2024, this bill authorizes a tax credit equal to 20% of qualifying expenses, as defined in the bill, associated with the production of a qualified motion media production project. An additional 5% may be awarded for each of the following conditions if they are met:

- (1) At least 50% of the qualified film production project is filmed in Missouri;
- (2) At least 15% of the project takes place in a rural or blighted area;
- (3) At least three departments of the production hire a Missouri resident ready to advance to the next level in a specialized craft position or learn a new skillset; and
- (4) The Department of Economic Development determines that the script for such project positively markets a city or region of the state, the entire state, or a tourist attraction located in the state, and the production provides certain advertising materials, as described in the bill.

The total dollar amount of tax credits awarded to a qualified film production project may be increased by 10% if such project is located in a county of the second, third, or fourth class.

A qualified motion media production project shall not be eligible for tax credits pursuant to this bill unless such project employs the following number of Missouri registered apprentices or veterans residing in Missouri with transferable skills:

- (1) If the qualifying expenses are less than \$5 million, two;
- (2) If the qualifying expenses are at least \$5 million but less than \$10 million, three;
- (3) If the qualifying expenses are at least \$10 million but less than \$15 million, six; or

(4) If the qualifying expenses are at least \$15 million, eight.

Final applications for the tax credit shall be accompanied by a report by a certified public accountant located and licensed by the state of Missouri, prepared at the expense of the applicant, attesting that the amounts in the final application are qualifying expenses. The total amount of tax credits authorized by this bill for film production or series production shall not exceed \$40 million per year.

This bill shall sunset on December 31, 2030.

This bill is similar to HB 675 (2023), HCS HB 2106 (2022).