

**CHAPTER 97**

**(House Bill 253)**

AN ACT concerning

**Film Production Activity – Employer Wage Rebate Grant Program**

FOR the purpose of establishing a program within the Department of Business and Economic Development to provide grants to rebate a certain proportion of certain wages paid in the State by employers engaged in certain film production activity, up to a specified maximum; providing for the application process and criteria for eligibility for the grants; declaring the intent of the General Assembly; ~~authorizing~~ requiring the Secretary of Business and Economic Development to adopt certain regulations; requiring the Department to report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date each year; specifying information that must be included in the report; requiring the Department to submit a certain interim report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; defining certain terms; and generally relating to film production activity in the State.

BY adding to

Article 83A – Department of Business and Economic Development

Section 5–1801 through 5–1807 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 18. Film Production Activity – Employer Wage Rebate Grant Program”

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2003 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article 83A – Department of Business and Economic Development**

**SUBTITLE 18. FILM PRODUCTION ACTIVITY – EMPLOYER WAGE REBATE GRANT PROGRAM.**

5–1801.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) (1) “FILM PRODUCTION ACTIVITY” MEANS THE PRODUCTION OF FILM OR VIDEO PROJECTS FOR WHICH THE TOTAL DIRECT COSTS INCURRED IN THE STATE ARE AT LEAST \$500,000 AND WHICH ARE INTENDED FOR NATIONWIDE COMMERCIAL DISTRIBUTION.

(2) “FILM PRODUCTION ACTIVITY” INCLUDES THE PRODUCTION OF FEATURE FILMS, TELEVISION PROJECTS, COMMERCIALS, CORPORATE FILMS, INFOMERCIALS, MUSIC VIDEOS, DIGITAL, ANIMATION, AND MULTIMEDIA PROJECTS.