



City of Boston In City Council

Order of Councilors Stephen J. Murphy and Bill Linehan

October 21, 2009

- Whereas** The film tax credits passed in 2005 and enhanced in 2007 have had a dramatic impact on Massachusetts; **and**
- Whereas** According to Massachusetts Department of Revenue's recent report, the credits have resulted in almost \$700 million in direct spending from the industry; **and**
- Whereas** More than thirty feature films and television projects have been produced in Massachusetts since 2005 when the film tax credits were first signed into law; **and**
- Whereas** Film industry job growth has rapidly outpaced job growth in other sectors since 2006; **and**
- Whereas** Direct employment in the film industry has increased more than 500% since 2006, all during a time when most sectors have been cutting jobs; **and**
- Whereas** Boston has become a hub of film activity and is a major player in the growth of the industry, hosting all or portions of nine of the eleven productions in Massachusetts in 2009 and thirteen of the fifteen in 2008; **and**
- Whereas** The film industry's economic impact reaches beyond movies and television production to support the hospitality and tourism industries, filling Boston hotel rooms and restaurants and creating jobs; **and**
- Whereas** The industry needs infrastructure investment – including production facilities and sound stages – to increase and diversify job creation and further establish its position in the Boston and Massachusetts economies; **and**
- Whereas** The film industry is a key component of the emerging creative economy in Massachusetts and a major contributor to the cultural life of the city and state; **and**
- Whereas** The City of Boston should explore ways to grow the film industry within the city, including if it is feasible to house a production studio; **and therefore be it**

Ordered

That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss the merits of permanently housing a movie studio within our city limits and that representatives from the film industry, Massachusetts Convention Center Authority, the Mayor's Film Bureau, the Massachusetts Film Office and members of the public be invited to testify.