[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 4618

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 19, 2025

Sponsored by:

Senator RAJ MUKHERJI

District 32 (Hudson)

Senator VIN GOPAL

District 11 (Monmouth)

Assemblywoman ELIANA PINTOR MARIN

District 29 (Essex and Hudson)

Assemblywoman LUANNE M. PETERPAUL

District 11 (Monmouth)

Assemblywoman MARGIE DONLON, M.D.

District 11 (Monmouth)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator McKnight

SYNOPSIS

Modifies certain requirements and award availability under film and digital media content production tax credit program.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on June 26, 2025, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/30/2025)

AN ACT concerning the film and digital media content production tax credit program, amending and supplementing P.L.2018, c.56, and amending P.L.2020, c.156.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

- 1. Section 1 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b) is amended to read as follows:
- 1. a. (1) A taxpayer, upon approval of an application to the authority and the director, shall be allowed a credit against the tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5) in an amount equal to, in the case of a taxpayer designated as a New Jersey studio partner or New Jersey film-lease production company, 40 percent, and in the case of a taxpayer other than a New Jersey studio partner or New Jersey film-lease production company, 35 percent, of the qualified film production expenses of the taxpayer during a privilege period commencing on or after July 1, 2018 but before July 1, [2039] 2049, provided that:
- (a) at least 60 percent of the total film production expenses, exclusive of post-production costs, of the taxpayer are incurred for services performed and goods purchased through vendors authorized to do business in New Jersey or the qualified film production expenses of the taxpayer during the privilege period for services performed and goods purchased through vendors authorized to do business in New Jersey exceed \$1,000,000 per production [1]; and, for reality shows, at least 60 percent of the total film production expenses, exclusive of post-production costs, of the taxpayer are incurred for services performed and goods purchased through vendors authorized to do business in New Jersey and the qualified film production expenses of the taxpayer during the privilege period for services performed and goods purchased through vendors authorized to do business in New Jersey exceed \$1,000,000 per production [1];
- (b) principal photography of the film commences within 180 days from the date of the original application for the tax credit;
- (c) the film includes, when determined to be appropriate by the commission, at no cost to the State, marketing materials promoting this State as a film and entertainment production destination, which materials shall include placement of a "Filmed in New Jersey" or "Produced in New Jersey" statement, or an appropriate logo approved by the commission, in the end credits of the film;
- (d) the taxpayer submits a tax credit verification report prepared by an independent certified public accountant licensed in this State in accordance with subsection f. of this section; and

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

(e) the taxpayer complies with the withholding requirements provided for payments to loan out companies and independent contractors in accordance with subsection g. of this section.

- (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) of subsection a. of this section to the contrary, the tax credit allowed pursuant to this subsection against the tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5) shall be in an amount equal to, in the case of a taxpayer designated as a New Jersey studio partner [or New Jersey film-lease production company], [35] 40 percent, in the case of a taxpayer designated as a New Jersey filmlease production company, 35 percent, and in the case of a taxpayer other than a New Jersey studio partner or New Jersey film-lease production company, 30 percent, of the qualified film production expenses of the taxpayer during a privilege period that are incurred for services performed and tangible personal property purchased for use at a sound stage or other location that is located in the State within a 30-mile radius of the intersection of Eighth Avenue/Central Park West, Broadway, and West 59th Street/Central Park South, New York, New York.
 - ¹**[**(3) In addition to the amount of tax credits otherwise allowed pursuant to this subsection, a taxpayer that is designated as a New Jersey studio partner, or New Jersey film-lease production company shall be eligible for an additional tax credit in an amount equal to four and one-half percent of the taxpayer's qualified film production expenses incurred during a privilege period commencing on or after July 1, 2025 but before July 1, 2049 for a film that is a television series that relocated to New Jersey. **]**¹
 - b. (1) A taxpayer, upon approval of an application to the authority and the director, shall be allowed a credit against the tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5) in an amount equal to: 30 percent of the qualified digital media content production expenses of the taxpayer during a privilege period commencing on or after July 1, 2018 but before July 1, [2039] 2049, provided that:
 - (a) at least \$2,000,000 of the total digital media content production expenses of the taxpayer are incurred for services performed and goods purchased through vendors authorized to do business in New Jersey, provided, however, that for applications submitted after the effective date of P.L.2024, c.33, qualified wage and salary payments made to full-time employees working on digital media shall not be deemed an expense incurred for services performed;
 - (b) at least 50 percent of the qualified digital media content production expenses of the taxpayer are for wages and salaries paid to full-time or full-time equivalent employees in New Jersey;
 - (c) the taxpayer submits a tax credit verification report prepared by an independent certified public accountant licensed in this State in accordance with subsection f. of this section; and

(d) the taxpayer complies with the withholding requirements provided for payments to loan out companies and independent contractors in accordance with subsection g. of this section.

- (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) of subsection b. of this section to the contrary, the tax credit allowed pursuant to this subsection against the tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5) shall be in an amount equal to 35 percent of the qualified digital media content production expenses of the taxpayer during a privilege period that are incurred for services performed and tangible personal property purchased through vendors whose primary place of business is located in Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Mercer, or Salem County.
- (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) of this subsection to the contrary, the tax credit allowed pursuant to this subsection against the tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5) shall be in an amount equal to 40 percent of the qualified digital media content production expenses of the taxpayer during a privilege period that are incurred for post-production services, including visual effects services performed at a New Jersey film-lease [production] partner facility, that are incurred by a taxpayer that is a New Jersey film-lease post-production company, or that are incurred by a taxpayer that is a New Jersey studio partner, provided that:
- (a) at least \$500,000 of the qualified digital media content production expenses [of the taxpayer] are incurred for post-production services, including visual effects services performed at a New Jersey film-lease [production] partner facility, are incurred by a taxpayer that is a New Jersey film-lease post-production company, or are incurred by a taxpayer that is a New Jersey studio partner;
- (b) the taxpayer submits a tax credit verification report prepared by an independent certified public accountant licensed in this State in accordance with subsection f. of this section; and
- (c) the taxpayer complies with the withholding requirements provided for payments to loan out companies and independent contractors in accordance with subsection g. of this section.
- (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) of this subsection to the contrary, the tax credit allowed pursuant to this subsection against the tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5) shall be in an amount equal to 35 percent of the qualified digital media content production expenses of the taxpayer during a privilege period that are incurred for post-production services, including visual effects services performed by a qualified [independent] post-production company, provided that:
- (a) at least \$500,000 of the qualified digital media content production expenses of the taxpayer are incurred for post-production services, including visual effects services performed by a <u>taxpayer that is a qualified</u> [independent] post-production

company, which may include qualified digital media content production expenses incurred for post-production, including visual effects activities performed by a business entity in which the qualified post-production company has an ownership interest of at least 51 percent;

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- (b) the taxpayer submits a tax credit verification report prepared by an independent certified public accountant licensed in this State in accordance with subsection f. of this section; and
- (c) the taxpayer complies with the withholding requirements provided for payments to loan out companies and independent contractors in accordance with subsection g. of this section.
- c. No tax credit shall be allowed pursuant to this section for any costs or expenses included in the calculation of any other tax credit or exemption granted pursuant to a claim made on a tax return filed with the director, or included in the calculation of an award of business assistance or incentive, for a period of time that coincides with the privilege period for which a tax credit authorized pursuant to this section is allowed. The order of priority in which the tax credit allowed pursuant to this section and any other tax credits allowed by law may be taken shall be as prescribed by the director. The amount of the tax credit applied under this section against the tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5), for a privilege period, when taken together with any other payments, credits, deductions, and adjustments allowed by law shall not reduce the tax liability of the taxpayer to an amount less than the statutory minimum provided in subsection (e) of section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5). The amount of the tax credit otherwise allowable under this section which cannot be applied for the privilege period due to the limitations of this subsection or under other provisions of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-1 et seq.) may be carried forward, if necessary, to the seven privilege periods following the privilege period for which the tax credit was allowed.
- d. (1) A taxpayer, with an application for a tax credit provided for in subsection a. or subsection b. of this section, may apply to the authority and the director for a tax credit transfer certificate in lieu of the taxpayer being allowed any amount of the tax credit against the tax liability of the taxpayer. The tax credit transfer certificate, upon receipt thereof by the taxpayer from the authority and the director, may be sold or assigned, in full or in part, to any other taxpayer that may have a tax liability under the "Corporation Business Tax Act (1945)," P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-1 et seq.), [or] the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., sections 2 and 3 of P.L.1945, c.132 (C.54:18A-2 and C.54A:18A-3), section 1 of P.L.1950, c.231 (C.17:32-15), or N.J.S.17B:23-5, in exchange for private financial assistance to be provided by the purchaser or assignee to the taxpayer that has applied for and been granted the tax credit. The tax credit transfer certificate provided to the taxpayer shall include a statement

1 waiving the taxpayer's right to claim that amount of the tax credit 2 against the tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 3 (C.54:10A-5) that the taxpayer has elected to sell or assign. The 4 sale or assignment of any amount of a tax credit transfer certificate 5 allowed under this section shall not be exchanged for consideration 6 received by the taxpayer of less than 75 percent of the transferred 7 tax credit amount. Any amount of a tax credit transfer certificate 8 used by a purchaser or assignee against a tax liability under P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-1 et seq.) ¹[, "New Jersey Gross Income 9 Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. 1, sections 2 and 3 of P.L.1945, 10 11 c.132 (C.54:18A-2 and C.54A:18A-3), section 1 of P.L.1950, c.231 12 (C.17:32-15), or N.J.S.17B:23-5 shall be subject to the same 13 limitations and conditions that apply to the use of a tax credit 14 pursuant to subsection c. of this section. Any amount of a tax credit 15 transfer certificate obtained by a purchaser or assignee under 16 subsection a. or subsection b. of this section may be applied against 17 the purchaser's or assignee's tax liability under N.J.S.54A:1-1 et 18 seq. and shall be subject to the same limitations and conditions that 19 apply to the use of a credit pursuant to subsections c. and d. of 20 section 2 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54A:4-12b).

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(2) A ¹credit issued to a ¹ taxpayer, including the purchaser or assignee of a tax credit transfer certificate, may first ¹[use the credit in] be taken by the tax certificate holder for the tax period for which it was issued, ¹for ¹ the tax period in which it was issued, or in any tax period ¹ [after the tax period for which it was issued, up to and including the next three successive tax periods after receipt by the purchaser during the time a business is required to maintain the project at a location in this State, subject to the carryforward provisions of this section. The tax credit transfer certificate holder may transfer the tax credit amount on or after the date of issuance for use by the transferee in the tax period for which it was issued, in the tax period for which it was issued, or in any of the next successive tax periods, subject to the carryforward provisions of this section. The tax certificate holder or transferee may first use the credit against tax liabilities in the tax period in which it was issued or in a succeeding tax period, as authorized in this paragraph, subject to the carryforward provisions in this section¹, without the need to amend the return for the year for which the credit was issued.

e. (1) The value of tax credits, including tax credits allowed through the granting of tax credit transfer certificates, approved by the director and the authority pursuant to subsection a. of this section and pursuant to subsection a. of section 2 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54A:4-12b), and except as provided in section 98 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-362), to taxpayers, other than New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-lease production companies, shall not exceed a cumulative total of \$100,000,000 in fiscal year 2019 and in each fiscal year thereafter prior to fiscal year [2040] 2050, to apply against the tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945,

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1 c.162 (C.54:10A-5) and the tax imposed pursuant to the "New 2 Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. In addition to 3 the limitation on the value of tax credits approved by the director 4 for New Jersey film-lease production companies and the limitation 5 on the value of tax credits approved by the director for other 6 taxpayers imposed by this paragraph, and except as provided in 7 section 98 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-362), the value of tax 8 credits, including tax credits allowed through the granting of tax credit transfer certificates, approved by the director and the 9 10 authority pursuant to subsection a. of this section and pursuant to 11 subsection a. of section 2 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54A:4-12b) to New 12 Jersey studio partners shall not exceed a cumulative total of 13 \$100,000,000 in fiscal year 2021 and in each fiscal year thereafter 14 prior to fiscal year 2024, and shall not exceed a cumulative total of 15 \$150,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 and in each fiscal year thereafter 16 prior to fiscal year [2040] ¹[2026, and shall not exceed a 17 cumulative total of \$300,000,000 in fiscal year 2026 and in each 18 fiscal year thereafter prior to fiscal year 1 2050, to apply against the 19 tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5) 20 and the tax imposed pursuant to the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax 21 Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. Beginning in fiscal year [2023] 22 ¹[2026] 2023¹, in addition to the cumulative total tax credits made 23 available for New Jersey studio partners pursuant to this paragraph 24 and subsection d. of section 98 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-362), up to an additional [\$400,000,000] 1[\$250,000,000] \$400,000,000 25 26 may be made available annually, in the discretion of the authority, 27 to New Jersey studio partners for the award of tax credits, including 28 tax credits allowed through the granting of tax credit transfer 29 certificates, pursuant to subsection a. of this section and subsection 30 a. of section 2 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54A:4-12b), from the funds 31 made available pursuant to subparagraph (i) of paragraph (1) of 32 subsection b. of section 98 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-362). In addition to the limitation on the value of tax credits approved by the 33 34 director for New Jersey studio partners and the limitation on the 35 value of tax credits approved by the director for other taxpayers 36 imposed by this paragraph, and except as provided in section 98 of 37 P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-362), the value of tax credits, including 38 tax credits allowed through the granting of tax credit transfer 39 certificates, approved by the director and the authority pursuant to 40 subsection a. of this section and pursuant to subsection a. of section 41 2 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54A:4-12b) to New Jersey film-lease 42 production companies shall not exceed a cumulative total of 43 \$100,000,000 in fiscal year 2021 and in each fiscal year thereafter 44 prior to fiscal year 2024, and shall not exceed a cumulative total of 45 \$150,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 and in each fiscal year thereafter prior to fiscal year ¹[2040] 2050¹, to apply against the tax imposed 46 47 pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5) and the tax 48 imposed pursuant to the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act,"

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1 N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. Beginning in fiscal year 2023, in addition to 2 the cumulative total tax credits made available for New Jersey film-3 lease production companies pursuant to this paragraph and 4 subsection d. of section 98 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-362), up to 5 an additional \$250,000,000 may be made available annually, in the 6 discretion of the authority, to New Jersey film-lease production 7 companies for the award of tax credits, including tax credits 8 allowed through the granting of tax credit transfer certificates, 9 pursuant to subsection a. of this section and subsection a. of section 10 2 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54A:4-12b), from the funds made available 11 pursuant to subparagraph (i) of paragraph (1) of subsection b. of 12 section 98 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-362). Approvals made to 13 New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-lease production 14 companies shall be subject to award agreements with the authority 15 detailing obligations of the awardee and outcomes relating to events 16 of default, including, but not limited to, recapture, forfeiture, and 17 termination, except that in the event of a recapture of tax credits, 18 the tax credits shall only be recaptured from the initial recipient of 19 the tax credits, not the purchaser or assignee of a tax credit transfer 20 certificate. Notwithstanding any provision of this subsection or 21 other law to the contrary, if a film production company designated 22 as a New Jersey studio partner ceases to qualify for its designation 23 as a New Jersey film studio partner and becomes designated as a 24 New Jersey film-lease partner facility, the authority shall reduce the 25 cumulative total amount of tax credits, including tax credits allowed 26 through the granting of tax credit transfer certificates, made 27 available to New Jersey studio partners in each fiscal year and shall 28 increase the cumulative total amount of tax credits permitted to be 29 approved for New Jersey film-lease production companies in each 30 fiscal year by a corresponding amount pursuant to a formula 31 established in rules adopted by the authority which shall consider 32 the volume of applications submitted by New Jersey studio partners 33 and New Jersey film-lease production facilities, the cumulative total 34 amount of tax credits allowed to New Jersey studio partners and 35 New Jersey film-lease production facilities in the prior fiscal year, 36 the total square footage of facility space occupied in the State by 37 New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-lease production 38 facilities, and any other factors that the authority deems appropriate. 39 Award agreements between the authority and New Jersey studio 40 partners shall include a requirement for each New Jersey studio 41 partner to occupy the production facility developed, purchased, or 42 leased as a condition of designation as a New Jersey studio partner 43 for the duration of the commitment period. If a New Jersey studio 44 partner fails to occupy the production facility developed, purchased, 45 or leased as a condition of designation as a New Jersey studio 46 partner for the duration of the commitment period or otherwise fails 47 to satisfy the conditions for designation as a New Jersey studio 48 partner, except for the failure to occupy the production facility for 49 any reason outside the control of the New Jersey studio partner,

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1 ¹subject to any rules the authority may determine necessary to 2 implement this provision, including, but not limited to, a definition of reasons outside the control of the New Jersey studio partner, 1 the 3 authority [shall] may recapture the portion of the tax credit that 4 5 was only available to the taxpayer by virtue of the taxpayer's 6 designation as a New Jersey studio partner, and all films for which 7 an initial approval has been given, but for which the authority has 8 not approved final documentation, shall [terminate] be reduced to 9 eliminate the portion of the tax credits only available by virtue of 10 such designation. Notwithstanding any law, regulation, or rule to 11 the contrary, in the event of a recapture of tax credits, the tax 12 credits shall only be recaptured from the initial recipient of the tax 13 credits, not the purchaser or assignee of a tax credit transfer 14 The authority shall establish a non-binding, certificate. 15 administrative pre-certification process for potentially eligible 16 projects.

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If the cumulative total amount of tax credits, and tax credit transfer certificates, allowed to taxpayers for privilege periods or taxable years commencing during a single fiscal year under subsection a. of this section and subsection a. of section 2 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54A:4-12b) exceeds the amount of tax credits available in that fiscal year, then taxpayers who have first applied for and have not been allowed a tax credit or tax credit transfer certificate amount for that reason shall have their applications approved by the authority, provided the application otherwise satisfies the requirements of this section, and shall be allowed the amount of tax credit or tax credit transfer certificate on the first day of the next succeeding fiscal year in which tax credits and tax credit transfer certificates under subsection a. of this section and subsection a. of section 2 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54A:4-12b) are not in excess of the amount of credits available.

Notwithstanding any provision of this paragraph to the contrary, for any fiscal year in which the amount of tax credits approved to New Jersey studio partners, New Jersey film-lease production companies, or taxpayers other than New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-lease production companies pursuant to this paragraph is less than the cumulative total amount of tax credits permitted to be approved to each such category, in that fiscal year, the authority shall certify the amount of the remaining tax credits available for approval to each such category in that fiscal year, and shall increase the cumulative total amount of tax credits permitted to be approved for New Jersey studio partners, New Jersey filmlease production companies, or taxpayers other than New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-lease production companies in the subsequent fiscal year by the certified amount remaining for each such category from the prior fiscal year. The authority shall also certify, for each fiscal year, the amount of tax credits that were previously approved, but that the taxpayer is not able to redeem or

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1 transfer to another taxpayer under this section, and shall increase 2 the cumulative total amount of tax credits permitted to be approved 3 for New Jersey studio partners, New Jersey film-lease production 4 companies, or taxpayers other than New Jersey studio partners and 5 New Jersey film-lease production companies in the subsequent 6 fiscal year by the amount of tax credits previously approved for 7 each such category, but not subject to redemption or transfer. 8 ¹Notwithstanding any provision of this paragraph to the contrary, 9 beginning in fiscal year 2028, if the amount of tax credits approved to 10 taxpayers other than New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-11 lease production companies pursuant to this paragraph is less than the 12 cumulative total amount of tax credits permitted to be approved to 13 taxpayers other than New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-14 lease production companies in that fiscal year, the authority shall 15 certify the amount of the remaining tax credits available for approval in that fiscal year, which certified amount shall not exceed 16 17 \$100,000,000 in any fiscal year, and shall increase the cumulative total 18 amount of tax credits permitted to be approved for New Jersey studio 19 partners pursuant to subsection a. of this section and subsection a. of 20 section 2 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54A:4-12b) in the next subsequent 21 fiscal year by the certified amount remaining for taxpayers other than 22 New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-lease production 23 companies from the prior fiscal year. If the certified amount 24 remaining from the prior fiscal year is less than \$100,000,000, then, in 25 addition to the tax credits remaining from the prior fiscal year, the 26 difference between \$100,000,000 and the certified amount shall be 27 made available to New Jersey studio partners, first from any funds 28 available pursuant to subparagraph (f) of paragraph (1) of subsection 29 b. of section 98 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-362), not including tax 30 credits made available for transformative projects, and then, if there 31 are insufficient funds available pursuant to subparagraph (f) of 32 paragraph (1) of subsection b. of section 98 of P.L.2020, c.156 33 (C.34:1B-362), from the tax credits allocated in the current fiscal year 34 to taxpayers other than New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey 35 film-lease production companies.¹ 36

(2) The value of tax credits, including tax credits allowed through the granting of tax credit transfer certificates, approved by the authority and the director pursuant to subsection b. of this section and pursuant to subsection b. of section 2 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54A:4-12b) shall not exceed a cumulative total of \$30,000,000 in fiscal year 2019 and in each fiscal year thereafter prior to fiscal year [2040] 2050 to apply against the tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5) and the tax imposed pursuant to the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq.

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If the total amount of tax credits and tax credit transfer certificates allowed to taxpayers for privilege periods or taxable years commencing during a single fiscal year under subsection b. of this section and subsection b. of section 2 of P.L.2018, c.56

(C.54A:4-12b) exceeds the amount of tax credits available in that year, then taxpayers who have first applied for and have not been allowed a tax credit or tax credit transfer certificate amount for that reason shall have their applications approved by the authority, provided the application otherwise satisfies the requirements of this section, and shall be allowed the amount of tax credit or tax credit transfer certificate on the first day of the next succeeding fiscal year in which tax credits and tax credit transfer certificates under subsection b. of this section and subsection b. of section 2 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54A:4-12b) are not in excess of the amount of credits available.

Beginning in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, in addition to the total amount of tax credits and tax credit transfer certificates allowed to taxpayers for privilege periods or taxable years commencing during a single fiscal year under subsection b. of this section and subsection b. of section 2 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54A:4-12b), up to an additional \$100,000,000 may be made available, in the discretion of the authority for the award of tax credits, including tax credits allowed through the granting of tax credit transfer certificates, pursuant to subsection b. of this section and subsection b. of section 2 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54A:4-12b), from the funds made available to taxpayers other than New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-lease production companies pursuant to paragraph (3) of subsection d. of section 98 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-362).

Notwithstanding any provision of this paragraph to the contrary, for any fiscal year in which the amount of tax credits approved pursuant to this paragraph is less than the cumulative total amount of tax credits permitted to be approved in that fiscal year, the authority shall certify the amount of the remaining tax credits available for approval in that fiscal year, and shall increase the cumulative total amount of tax credits permitted to be approved in the subsequent fiscal year by the certified amount remaining from the prior fiscal year. The authority shall also certify, for each fiscal year, the amount of tax credits that were previously approved, but that the taxpayer is not able to redeem or transfer to another taxpayer under this section, and shall increase the cumulative total amount of tax credits permitted to be approved in the subsequent fiscal year by the amount of tax credits previously approved, but not subject to redemption or transfer.

f. A taxpayer shall submit to the authority and the director a report prepared by an independent certified public accountant licensed in this State to verify the taxpayer's tax credit claim following the completion of the production. A New Jersey studio partner that makes deferred compensation payments based on work or services provided on a production may file a supplemental report prepared by an independent certified public accountant, pursuant to agreed-upon procedures prescribed by the authority and the director, no later than **[**two**]** four years after the date on which the

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1 The deferred compensation payments, production concludes. 2 including deferred compensation payments made directly to a bona 3 fide labor union, shall constitute qualified film production expenses 4 as if the expenses were incurred at the time of production, provided 5 there are credits available and subject to the authority's review. The 6 report shall be prepared by the independent certified public 7 accountant pursuant to agreed-upon procedures prescribed by the 8 authority and the director, and shall include such information and 9 documentation as shall be determined to be necessary by the 10 authority and the director to substantiate the qualified film 11 production expenses or the qualified digital media content 12 production expenses of the taxpayer. A single report with 13 attachments deemed necessary by the authority shall be submitted 14 electronically. Upon receipt of the report, the authority and the 15 director shall review the findings of the independent certified public 16 accountant's report, and shall make a determination as to the 17 qualified film production expenses or the qualified digital media 18 content production expenses of the taxpayer. The authority's and 19 the director's review shall include, but shall not be limited to: a 20 review of all non-payroll qualified film production expense items 21 and non-payroll digital media content production expense items 22 over \$20,000; a review of 100 randomly selected non-payroll 23 qualified film production expense items and non-payroll digital 24 media content production expense items that are greater than 25 \$2,500, but less than \$20,000; a review of 100 randomly selected 26 non-payroll qualified film production expense items and non-27 payroll digital media content production expense items that are less 28 than \$2,500; a review of the qualified wages for the 15 employees, 29 independent contractors, or loan-out companies with the highest 30 qualified wages; and a review of the qualified wages for 35 31 randomly selected employees, independent contractors, or loan-out 32 companies with qualified wages other than the 15 employees, 33 independent contractors, or loan-out companies with the highest 34 qualified wages. The taxpayer's qualified film production expenses 35 and digital media content production expenses shall be adjusted based on any discrepancies identified for the reviewed non-payroll 36 37 qualified film production expense items, non-payroll digital media 38 content production expense items and qualified wages. 39 taxpayer's qualified film production expenses and digital media 40 content production expenses also shall be adjusted based on the 41 projection of any discrepancies identified based on the review of 42 randomly selected expense items or wages pursuant to this 43 subsection to the extent that the discrepancies exceed one percent of 44 the total reviewed non-payroll qualified film production expense 45 items, non-payroll digital media content production expense items, 46 or qualified wages. The determination shall be provided in writing 47 to the taxpayer, and a copy of the written determination shall be 48 included in the filing of a return that includes a claim for a tax 49 credit allowed pursuant to this section.

1 g. A taxpayer shall withhold from each payment to a loan out 2 company, to an independent contractor, or to a homeowner for the 3 use of a personal residence an amount equal to 6.37 percent of the payment otherwise due. The amounts withheld shall be deemed to 4 be withholding of liability pursuant to the "New Jersey Gross 5 6 Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., and the taxpayer shall be 7 deemed to have the rights, duties, and responsibilities of an 8 employer pursuant to chapter 7 of Title 54A of the New Jersey 9 Statutes. The director shall allocate the amounts withheld for a 10 taxable year to the accounts of the individuals who are employees 11 of a loan out company in proportion to the employee's payment by 12 the loan out company in connection with a trade, profession, or 13 occupation carried on in this State or for the rendition of personal 14 services performed in this State during the taxable year. A loan out 15 company that reports its payments to employees in connection with 16 a trade, profession, or occupation carried on in this State or for the 17 rendition of personal services performed in this State during a 18 taxable year shall be relieved of its duties and responsibilities as an 19 employer pursuant to chapter 7 of Title 54A of the New Jersey 20 Statutes for the taxable year for any payments relating to the 21 payments on which the taxpayer withheld. Notwithstanding any 22 provision of this section to the contrary, qualified film production 23 expenses and qualified digital media content production expenses 24 shall include any payments made by the taxpayer to a loan out 25 company for services performed in New Jersey by individuals who 26 are employees of the loan out company and whose wages and 27 salaries are subject to withholding, but not subject to tax under the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., due to 28 29 the provisions of a reciprocity agreement with another state. 30 Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, 31 deferred compensation payments made directly to a bona fide labor 32 union on behalf of an individual that performed services on a 33 production that tax under the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," 34 N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. was not withheld shall constitute qualified 35 film production expenses, provided that the payment otherwise satisfies the requirements of this section. 36

h. As used in this section:

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38 "Authority" means the New Jersey Economic Development 39 Authority.

"Business assistance or incentive" means "business assistance or incentive" as that term is defined pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2007, c.101 (C.54:50-39).

"Commission" means the Motion Picture and Television Development Commission.

"Commitment period" means, for New Jersey studio partners, the period beginning with the commencement of the eligibility period and [expiring] continuing for a minimum of 10 years following:

(1) in the case of a taxpayer developing or purchasing a production facility, the issuance of a temporary certificate of

occupancy for the production facility developed or purchased as a condition of designation as a New Jersey studio partner; or

(2) in the case of a taxpayer leasing a production facility, commencement of the lease term for the production facility leased as a condition of designation as a New Jersey studio partner.

"Digital media content" means the following: digitally formatted and distributed content, which content includes data or information created in analog form, but reformatted in digital form: animation; video games; visual effects; interactive media, including virtual, augmented, or mixed reality; content containing text, graphics, or photographs; sound; and video. "Digital media content" shall not mean content offerings generated by the end user (including postings on electronic bulletin boards and chat rooms); content offerings comprised primarily of local news, events, weather, or local market reports; public service content; electronic commerce platforms (such as retail and wholesale websites); websites or content offerings that contain obscene material as defined pursuant to N.J.S.2C:34-2 and N.J.S.2C:34-3; websites or content that are produced or maintained primarily for private, industrial, corporate, or institutional purposes; or digital media content acquired or licensed by the taxpayer for distribution or incorporation into the taxpayer's digital media content.

"Eligibility period" means, with respect to New Jersey studio partners, the period in which a New Jersey studio partner may claim a tax credit for qualified film production expenses, including expenses that would not constitute qualified film production expenses but for the taxpayer's designation as a New Jersey studio partner, beginning the earlier of the commencement of the principal photography for the New Jersey studio partner's initial film in New Jersey or, in the case of a taxpayer developing or purchasing a production facility, at the issuance of a temporary certificate of occupancy for the production facility developed or purchased as a condition of designation as a New Jersey studio partner and, in the case of a taxpayer leasing a production facility, at the commencement of the lease term for the production facility leased as a condition of designation as a New Jersey studio partner, and extending thereafter for a term of not [more] less than 10 years.

"Film" means a feature film, a television series, or a television show of 22 minutes or more in length, intended for a national audience, or a television series or a television show of 22 minutes or more in length intended for a national or regional audience, including, but not limited to, a game show, award show, talk show, competition or variety show filmed before a live audience, or other gala event filmed and produced at a nonprofit arts and cultural venue receiving State funding. "Film" shall not include a production featuring news, current events, weather, and market reports or public programming, or sports event, a production that solicits funds, a production containing obscene material as defined under N.J.S.2C:34-2 and N.J.S.2C:34-3, or a production primarily

1 for private, industrial, corporate, or institutional purposes, or a 2 reality show, except if the production company of the reality show has obtained a minimum ¹[six-episode] four-episode¹ order from, 3 4 and is commissioned and scheduled to premiere on, a major linear 5 network or streaming service. Notwithstanding any provision of 6 this section to the contrary, for a New Jersey studio partner, "film" 7 shall include an ongoing television production that relocated to New 8 Jersey and features news or current events, which may include 9 sports themed current events programming, but shall not include a 10 sports event, provided that the ongoing television production 11 relocates to a ¹[New Jersey studio partner] ¹ facility that is leased or owned by the New Jersey studio partner ¹ and for which facility such 12 New Jersey studio partner received its designation as a New Jersey 13 14 studio partner¹. "Film" shall not include an award show or other gala event that is not filmed and produced at a nonprofit arts and 15 16 cultural venue receiving State funding.

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"Full-time or full-time equivalent employee" means an individual employed by the taxpayer for consideration for at least 35 hours a week, or who renders any other standard of service generally accepted by custom or practice as full-time or full-time equivalent employment, whose wages are subject to withholding as provided in the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., or whose wages are not subject to tax under the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., due to the provisions of a reciprocity agreement with another state, regardless of whether the individual is a resident or nonresident taxpayer, or who is a partner of a taxpayer, who works for the partnership for at least 35 hours a week, or who renders any other standard of service generally accepted by custom or practice as full-time or full-time equivalent employment, and whose distributive share of income, gain, loss, or deduction, or whose guaranteed payments, or any combination thereof, is subject to the payment of estimated taxes, as provided in the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. "Full-time or full-time equivalent employee" shall not include an individual who works as an independent contractor or on a consulting basis for the taxpayer.

"Highly compensated individual" means **[**, for New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-lease production companies, an individual who directly or indirectly receives compensation in excess of \$500,000 for the performance of services used directly in a production and, for taxpayers other than New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-lease production companies, **]** an individual who directly or indirectly receives compensation in excess of \$750,000 for the performance of services used directly in a production. An individual receives compensation indirectly when the taxpayer pays a loan out company that, in turn, pays the individual for the performance of services.

"Incurred in New Jersey" means, for any application submitted after the effective date of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b et al.), pursuant to which a tax credit has not been allowed prior to the effective date of P.L.2021, c.160, service performed within New Jersey and tangible personal property used or consumed in New Jersey. A service is performed in New Jersey to the extent that the individual performing the service is physically located in New Jersey while performing the service. Notwithstanding where the property is delivered or acquired, rented tangible property is used or consumed in New Jersey to the extent that the property is located in New Jersey during its use or consumption and is rented from a vendor authorized to do business in New Jersey and the film production company provides to the authority the vendor's information in a form and manner prescribed by the authority. Purchased tangible property is not used and consumed in New Jersey unless it is purchased from a vendor authorized to do business in New Jersey and is delivered to or acquired within New Jersey, provided, however, that if a production is also located in another jurisdiction, the purchased tangible property is used and consumed in New Jersey, to the extent that the property is located in New Jersey during its use or consumption, if the acquisition and delivery of purchased tangible property is located in either New Jersey or another jurisdiction where the production takes place. Payment made to a homeowner for the use of a personal residence located in the State for filming shall be deemed an expense incurred in New Jersey notwithstanding the fact that such homeowner is not a vendor authorized to do business in New Jersey, provided the taxpayer has made the withholding required by subsection g. of this

"Independent contractor" means an individual treated as an independent contractor for federal and State tax purposes who is contracted with by the taxpayer for the performance of services used directly in a production.

["Independent post-production company" means a corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or other entity principally engaged in the provision of post-production, including visual effects services for a film or films described in this section, including a film or films that do not satisfy the requirements of subparagraph (a) of paragraph (1) of subsection a. of this section, which entity is not a publicly traded entity or for which entity no more than five percent of the beneficial ownership is owned directly or indirectly by a publicly traded entity.]

"Loan out company" means, for applications submitted prior to the effective date of P.L.2024, c.33, a personal service corporation or other entity with which a taxpayer contracts for the provision of specified individual personnel, such as artists, crew, actors, producers, or directors for the performance of services used directly in a production and, for applications submitted on or after the effective date of P.L.2024, c.33, a personal service corporation or

other entity authorized to do business in New Jersey that is contracted with by the taxpayer to provide specified individual personnel, such as artists, crew, actors, producers, or directors for the performance of services used directly in a production. "Loan out company" shall not include entities contracted with by the taxpayer to provide goods or ancillary contractor services such as catering, construction, trailers, equipment, or transportation.

"New Jersey film-lease partner facility" means:

- (1) (a) a production facility in New Jersey whose owner or developer has made the commitment to build, lease, or operate a production facility of 250,000 square feet or more, including a sound stage and production support space, such as production offices, mill space, or a backlot, for a period of five or more successive years, as evidenced by site plan approval or an executed redevelopment agreement with a governmental entity for the purpose of developing a production facility of 250,000 square feet or more;
- (b) a production facility built, leased, or operated by a production company designated as a New Jersey studio partner and which the New Jersey studio partner no longer occupies; or
- (c) a portion of a production facility owned by a New Jersey studio partner that is in excess of the space being utilized by the New Jersey studio partner; provided the spaces utilized and unutilized by the New Jersey studio partner both exceed 250,000 square feet.
- (2) A film production company that executes at least a 10-year lease for 250,000 square feet or more from a New Jersey film-lease partner facility shall be eligible to be designated as a New Jersey studio partner, provided the film production company otherwise complies with the eligibility requirements of the program.
- (3) Except for a production facility, or portion thereof, owned, built, leased, or operated by a film production company designated as a New Jersey studio partner by the authority on or before the 181st day next following the effective date of P.L.2023, c.97 (C.34:1B-4.2 et al.), in order for a production facility to be designated as a New Jersey film-lease partner facility, the owner or developer shall accept the acquisition by the authority, at the authority's discretion, of equity in the production facility, on commercially reasonable and customary terms and conditions determined by the authority and the New Jersey film-lease partner facility. A film production facility may receive its film-lease partner facility designation prior to executing an equity agreement with the authority provided final approval of such agreement occurs on or before the date on which production commences at the facility.
- (4) No more than three New Jersey production facilities may be designated as a New Jersey film-lease partner facility; provided, however, this limitation shall not apply to production facilities, or

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portions thereof, owned, built, leased, or operated by a film production company designated as a New Jersey studio partner.

3 "New Jersey film-lease post-production company" means a 4 taxpayer, including any taxpayer that is a member of a combined 5 group pursuant to section 23 of P.L.2018, c.48 (C.54:10A-4.11) or 6 any other entity in which the New Jersey film-lease post-production 7 company has a material ownership interest and a material 8 operational role in the production, that otherwise complies with the 9 eligibility requirements of the Film and Digital Media Tax Credit 10 Program, has made a commitment to lease or otherwise occupy 11 production space in a New Jersey film-lease partner facility, and 12 satisfies the criteria of paragraph (3) of subsection b. of this section. 13 If a New Jersey film-lease partner facility has not yet received a 14 temporary or final certificate of occupancy, a New Jersey film-lease 15 post-production company shall have entered into a lease or sublease 16 with the owner or developer of a New Jersey film-lease partner facility, which lease or sublease shall be for not less than three 17 18 years of occupancy of the New Jersey film-lease partner facility and 19 include at least 36,000 square feet of gross rentable space. For 20 purposes of satisfying the requirements of subparagraph (a) of 21 paragraph (3) of subsection b. of this section, a New Jersey film-22 lease post-production company may include in an application the 23 qualified digital media content production expenses incurred for 24 post-production, including visual effects activities that are 25 performed by the New Jersey film-lease post-production company 26 or by a business entity in which the New Jersey film-lease post-27 production company has an ownership interest of at least ¹[50] 51¹ 28 percent.

29 In the event that the authority determines that a New Jersey film-30 lease post-production company has failed to meet the qualifications 31 of a New Jersey film-lease post-production company or otherwise 32 comply with the provisions of this section, except for the failure to 33 occupy the New Jersey film-lease partner facility for any reason 34 outside the control of the New Jersey film-lease post-production 35 company, ¹subject to any rules the authority may determine necessary 36 to implement this provision, including, but not limited to, a definition 37 of reasons outside the control of the New Jersey film-lease postproduction company, the authority may recapture solely from that 38 39 film production company the portion of any tax credits that had 40 been awarded to that film production company that was only 41 available to the film production company by virtue of the film 42 production company's designation as a New Jersey film-lease post-43 production company, except that the tax credits shall not be 44 recaptured from the purchaser or assignee of a tax credit transfer 45 certificate, and all films for which an initial approval has been 46 given but for which the authority has not approved final 47 documentation shall be reduced to eliminate the portion of the tax credits only available by virtue of such designation. If a New 48

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1 Jersey film-lease post-production company was issued a film tax 2 credit on the basis of a lease or sublease with a New Jersey film-3 lease partner facility before that facility receives a temporary or 4 final certificate of occupancy, and the New Jersey film-lease post-5 production company fails to meet the qualifications of a New Jersey 6 film-lease post-production company or otherwise comply with the 7 applicable provisions in the definition of New Jersey film-lease 8 ¹[production] post-production company, including, but not limited 9 to, the failure to occupy the required amount of space at a New 10 Jersey film-lease production facility for the required time, the 11 authority shall not recapture any tax credits within ¹ [two years] one year¹ of the date of the New Jersey film-lease post-production 12 13 company's lease with the New Jersey film-lease production facility, 14 which ¹ [may be extended at the discretion of the authority] the 15 authority shall extend for one additional year if the New Jersey film-16 lease production facility commences construction as evidenced by the 17 issuance of a building permit within one year of the date of the New 18 Jersey film-lease post-production company's lease with the New 19 Jersey film-lease production facility¹. 20

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"New Jersey film-lease production company" means a taxpayer, including any taxpayer that is a member of a combined group under section 23 of P.L.2018, c.48 (C.54:10A-4.11) or any other entity in which the film-lease production company has a material ownership interest and has oversight of operations of the entity, as demonstrated by the control of at least one board of director position or other management responsibilities, or has a material operational role in the production, that otherwise complies with the eligibility requirements of the Film and Digital Media Tax Credit Program and has made a commitment to lease or otherwise occupy production space in a New Jersey film-lease partner facility ¹ and who will shoot at least 50 percent of the total principal photography shoot days of the project within New Jersey¹. In addition to the forgoing, if a New Jersey film-lease partner facility has received a temporary or final certificate of occupancy, a film production company shall satisfy one of the following two criteria: (1) the film production company shoots at least 50 percent of the total principal photography shoot days of the project within New Jersey at the New Jersey film-lease partner facility; or (2) the qualified film production expenses of the project for all services performed and goods used or consumed at the New Jersey film-lease partner facility and payments made for the use of the New Jersey film-lease partner facility equal or exceed 33 percent of the total qualified film production expenses of the project. In addition to the forgoing, if a New Jersey film-lease partner facility has not yet received a temporary or final certificate of occupancy, a film production company shall have entered into a lease or sublease with the owner or developer of a New Jersey film-lease partner facility, which lease or sublease is for not less than three years of occupancy of the New

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1 Jersey film-lease partner facility and includes at least 36,000 square 2 feet of soundstage space, and the film production company shall 3 have executed a contract with the owner or developer of the New 4 Jersey film-lease partner facility to provide production services for 5 films produced by the film production company in New Jersey prior 6 to the New Jersey film-lease partner facility's receipt of a temporary or final certificate of occupancy. ¹A television series produced by a 7 New Jersey film-lease production company that satisfies the three 8 9 year lease requirements under this paragraph and that commences 10 principal photography in New Jersey prior to the New Jersey film-11 lease partner facility's receipt of a temporary or final certificate of 12 occupancy shall remain eligible to receive the tax credits only 13 available to the film production company by virtue of the film 14 production company's designation as a New Jersey film-lease 15 production company, provided that the series continues production 16 in New Jersey, the film production company continues to satisfy the 17 requirements of a New Jersey film-lease production company at 18 <u>least through the conclusion of production of the television series in</u> 19 New Jersey, and the television series continues to satisfy the 20 requirements for a film that commences production prior to the New 21 Jersey film-lease partner facility's receipt of a temporary or final certificate of occupancy. A "New Jersey film-lease production 22 23 company" may include any other member of a taxpayer's combined 24 group, pursuant to [P.L.2018, c.131] section 23 of P.L.2018, c.48 25 (C.54:10A-4.11), any other entity in which the New Jersey film-26 lease production company has a material ownership interest, or an 27 unrelated entity principally engaged in the production of a film or 28 other commercial audiovisual product with whom a designated New 29 Jersey film-lease production company contracts to perform film 30 production services on its behalf such that the designated New 31 Jersey film-lease production company: (1) controls such film or 32 product during preproduction, production, and postproduction [and 33 all results and proceeds of such services constitute, from the 34 moment of creation, "works made for hire" for the New Jersey film-35 lease production company pursuant to the provisions of the federal 36 "Copyright Act of 1976" (17 U.S.C. s.101 et seq.)]; or (2) controls distribution rights for the resulting film or other commercial 37 38 audiovisual product, provided that the New Jersey film-lease 39 production company contracted with the unrelated entity prior to 40 qualified film production expenses being incurred. 41 In the event the authority determines that a New Jersey film-42 lease production company has failed to meet the qualifications of a 43 New Jersey film-lease production company or otherwise comply 44 with the provisions of this section, except for the failure to occupy 45 the New Jersey film-lease partner facility for any reason outside the 46 control of the New Jersey film-lease production company, ¹subject 47 to any rules the authority may determine necessary to implement this 48 provision, including, but not limited to, a definition of reasons outside

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the control of the New Jersey film-lease production company, the 1 authority may recapture solely from that film production company 2 3 the portion of any tax [credit] credits that had been awarded to that 4 film production company that was only available to the film 5 production company by virtue of the film production company's 6 designation as a New Jersey film-lease production company, except 7 that the tax credits shall not be recaptured from the purchaser or 8 assignee of a tax credit transfer certificate, and all films for which 9 an initial approval has been given, but for which the authority has 10 not approved final documentation, shall be reduced to eliminate the 11 portion of the tax credits only available by virtue of such 12 designation. If a New Jersey film-lease production company was 13 issued a film tax credit on the basis of a lease or sublease with a 14 New Jersey film-lease partner facility before that facility receives a 15 temporary or final certificate of occupancy and the New Jersey 16 film-lease production company fails to meet the qualifications of a 17 New Jersey film-lease production company or otherwise comply 18 with the applicable provisions in the definition of New Jersey film-19 lease production company, including, but not limited to, the failure 20 to occupy the required amount of space at a New Jersey film-lease 21 production facility for the required time, the authority shall not 22 recapture any tax credits within ¹ [two years] one year ¹ of the date 23 of the New Jersey film-lease production company's lease with the New Jersey film-lease production facility, which ¹ [period may be 24 25 extended at the discretion of the authority I the authority shall extend 26 for one additional year if the New Jersey film-lease production facility 27 commences construction, as evidenced by the issuance of a building 28 permit, within one year of the date of the New Jersey film-lease 29 production company's lease with the New Jersey film-lease production 30 facility¹. 31

"New Jersey studio partner" means a film production company that has made a commitment to produce films or commercial audiovisual products in New Jersey and has developed, purchased, or executed a 10-year contract to lease a production facility of 250,000 square feet or more, or has executed a purchase contract with a governmental authority for the purpose of developing a production facility of 250,000 square feet or more within 48 months from the date of designation as a New Jersey studio partner; provided, however, the board, in its discretion, may extend the time to execute a purchase contract for an additional 12 months. Effective upon designation as a New Jersey studio partner, a film production company shall be eligible for a credit pursuant to this section, provided the film production company otherwise complies with the eligibility requirements of Film and Digital Media Tax Credit Program. In the event the authority determines that a film production company has failed to meet the qualifications of a New Jersey studio partner or otherwise comply with the provisions of this section, except for the failure to occupy a New Jersey film-

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1 lease partner facility for any reason outside the control of the New Jersey studio partner, ¹subject to any rules the authority may 2 3 determine necessary to implement this provision, including, but not 4 limited to, a definition of reasons outside the control of the New Jersey 5 studio partner, the authority may rescind the New Jersey studio partner designation and may recapture solely from that film 6 7 production company the portion of any tax credit that had been 8 awarded to that film production company that was only available to 9 the film production company by virtue of the film production 10 company's designation as a New Jersey studio partner, except that 11 the tax credits shall not be recaptured from the purchaser or 12 assignee of a tax credit transfer certificate, and all films for which 13 an initial approval has been given, but for which the authority has 14 not approved final documentation, shall be reduced to eliminate the 15 portion of the tax credits only available by virtue of such 16 designation. If a New Jersey studio partner was issued a film tax 17 credit on the basis of a lease or sublease with a New Jersey film-18 lease partner facility before that facility receives a temporary or 19 final certificate of occupancy and the New Jersey studio partner 20 fails to meet the qualifications of a New Jersey studio partner, 21 including, but not limited to, the failure to occupy the required 22 amount of space at New Jersey film-lease production facility for the 23 required time, the authority shall not recapture any tax credits within ¹[two years] one year of the date of the New Jersey studio 24 partner's lease with the New Jersey film-lease production facility, 25 26 which ¹ [period may be extended at the discretion of the authority] 27 the authority shall extend for one additional year if the New Jersey film-lease production facility commences construction, as evidenced 28 29 by the issuance of a building permit, within one year of the date of the New Jersey studio partner's lease with the New Jersey film-lease 30 production facility¹. A "New Jersey studio partner" may include any 31 32 other member of a taxpayer's combined group, pursuant to 33 [P.L.2018, c.131] section 23 of P.L.2018, c.48 (C.54:10A-4.11), or 34 an unrelated entity principally engaged in the production of a film 35 or other commercial audiovisual product with whom a designated 36 New Jersey studio partner contracts to perform film production 37 services on its behalf or for its benefit such that the designated New 38 Jersey studio partner: (1) controls such film or product during pre-39 production, production, and post-production; or (2) controls 40 distribution rights for the resulting film or other commercial 41 audiovisual product, provided that the New Jersey studio partner contracted with the unrelated entity prior to qualified film 42 43 production expenses being incurred. No more than three film 44 production companies may be designated as a New Jersey studio 45 partner. "Partnership" means an entity classified as a partnership for 46 47

federal income tax purposes.

"Post-production costs" means the costs of the phase of production of a film that follows principal photography, in which raw footage is cut and assembled into a finished film with sound synchronization and visual effects.

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"Pre-production costs" means the costs of the phase of production of a film that precedes principal photography, in which a detailed schedule and budget for the production is prepared, the script and location is finalized, and contracts with vendors are negotiated.

"Qualified digital media content production expenses" means an expense incurred in New Jersey for the production of digital media "Qualified digital media content production expenses" content. shall include, but not be limited to: the wages and salaries of individuals employed in the production of digital media content on which the tax imposed by the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. has been paid or is due and any wages and salaries of individuals employed in the production of digital media content that are not subject to tax under the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., due to the provisions of a reciprocity agreement with another state; the costs of computer software and hardware, data processing, visualization technologies, sound synchronization, editing, and the rental of facilities and equipment; and the costs for post-production, including, but not limited to: editing, sound design, visual effects, animation, music composition, color grading, and mastering. Payment made to a loan out company or to an independent contractor shall not be deemed a "qualified digital media content production expense" unless the payment is made in connection with a trade, profession, or occupation carried on in this State or for the rendition of personal services performed in this State and the taxpayer has made the withholding required pursuant to subsection g. of this section. For applications submitted prior to the effective date of P.L.2024, c.33, "qualified digital media content production expenses" shall not include expenses incurred in marketing, promotion, advertising digital media, or other costs not directly related to the production of digital media content. For applications submitted after the effective date of P.L.2024, c.33, "qualified digital media content production expenses" shall not include expenses incurred in marketing, promotion, or advertising digital media; costs incurred for the design, maintenance, and hosting of websites; or other costs not directly related to the production of digital media content. Costs related to the acquisition or licensing of digital media content by the taxpayer for distribution or incorporation into the taxpayer's digital media content, or any costs included in an application submitted to the authority, shall not be deemed "qualified digital media content production expenses."

"Qualified film production expenses" means an expense incurred in New Jersey for the production of a film, including pre-production costs and post-production costs incurred in New Jersey. "Qualified

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1 film production expenses" shall include, but not be limited to: the 2 wages and salaries of individuals employed in the production of a 3 film on which the tax imposed by the "New Jersey Gross Income 4 Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. has been paid or is due and any 5 wages and salaries of individuals employed in the production of a 6 film that are not subject to tax under the "New Jersey Gross Income 7 Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., due to the provisions of a 8 reciprocity agreement with another state; and the costs for tangible 9 personal property used, and services performed, directly and 10 exclusively in the production of a film, such as expenditures for 11 film production facilities, props, makeup, wardrobe, film 12 processing, camera, sound recording, set construction, lighting, shooting, editing, and meals. ¹For a New Jersey studio partner or 13 14 New Jersey film-lease production company that enters into a lease to 15 occupy a New Jersey film-lease partner facility for at least three years, "qualified film production expenses" includes the following 16 17 expenses incurred in the production of the film, which expenses 18 shall be included in a percentage proportional to the percentage of 19 principal photography shoot days in the State: total production 20 insurance premiums paid to insurance companies doing business in 21 New Jersey, which premiums shall exclude payments for errors and 22 omissions insurance; total producer fees; and total rights fees. 23 However, cumulative expenses for production insurance premiums, 24 producer fees, and rights fees shall not exceed seven and one-half 25 percent of "qualified film production expenses" for any New Jersey studio partner or New Jersey film-lease production company. For a 26 New Jersey studio partner or New Jersey film-lease production 27 28 company ¹that enters into a lease to occupy a New Jersey film-lease partner facility for at least three years¹, "qualified film production 29 30 expenses" includes: the total script costs of any script written within 31 New Jersey; or the product of the total script costs of any script 32 written outside New Jersey and the percentage of the principal 33 photography shoot days in New Jersey relative to the total principal 34 photography shoot days for the film. ¹Notwithstanding the 35 foregoing, for any original application approved by the authority on or 36 after January 1, 2028 for a New Jersey studio partner or New Jersey 37 film-lease production company that enters into a lease to occupy a 38 New Jersey film-lease partner facility for at least three years, 39 "qualified film production expenses" shall include the total script costs of any script written within New Jersey; or the product of the 40 41 total script costs of any script written outside New Jersey and the 42 percentage of the principal photography shoot days in this State 43 relative to the total principal photography shoot days for the film, 44 provided that the taxpayer satisfies two of the following criteria as 45 certified by an independent certified public accountant licensed in 46 this State and according to such procedures as the authority may 47 establish: the taxpayer establishes a writer's skills development 48 program with a college, including a community college, apprentice

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1 program, university, vocational school, or high school in this State; 2 the taxpayer opens a writer's room in this State at a production 3 facility where writing support services are provided at least in part 4 for the film; a writer on the film is a resident of this State for a 5 period including at least one year prior to the commencement of principal photography for the film in this State; the taxpayer hires 6 7 one or more researchers that are residents of this State to perform 8 research services in this State for the development of a script or 9 scripts for a film; or any alternative criteria as the authority shall provide.1 10 Payment made to a loan out company or to an independent contractor shall not be deemed a "qualified film 11 12 production expense" unless the payment is made in connection with 13 a trade, profession, or occupation carried on in this State or for the 14 rendition of personal services performed in this State and the 15 taxpayer has made the withholding required pursuant to subsection 16 g. of this section. Payment made to a homeowner, who is otherwise 17 not a vendor authorized to do business in New Jersey, for the use of 18 a personal residence for filming shall not be deemed a "qualified 19 film production expense" unless the taxpayer has made the 20 withholding required by subsection g. of this section. For the 21 purposes of this definition, wages and salaries of individuals 22 employed in the production of a film shall include deferred 23 compensation, including advances on deferred compensation, 24 incurred by a New Jersey studio [partners] partner, provided the 25 New Jersey studio partner files a supplemental report prepared by 26 an independent certified public accountant, pursuant to agreed-upon 27 procedures prescribed by the authority and the director, no later than [two] four years after the date on which the production 28 29 concludes. "Qualified film production expenses" shall not include: 30 expenses incurred in marketing or advertising a film; expenses for a 31 story, script, or scenario to be used for a film, except that qualified 32 film production expenses may include script costs, including the 33 cost of script purchase, for a New Jersey studio partner or New 34 <u>Jersey film-lease production company</u>; **I**for taxpayers other than 35 New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-lease production 36 companies, and payment in excess of \$750,000 to a highly 37 compensated individual for wages or salaries or other compensation 38 for writers, directors, including music directors, producers, and 39 performers, other than background actors with no scripted lines [; 40 and, for New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-lease 41 production companies, payment in excess of \$500,000 to a highly 42 compensated individual for wages or salaries or other compensation 43 for writers, directors, including music directors, producers, and 44 performers, other than background actors with no scripted lines], 45 except as follows: 46 (1) for a New Jersey studio partner that incurs less than 47 \$25,000,000 in qualified film production expenses in the State, 48 which shall be determined by including the additional amount

- 1 provided in this paragraph, in excess of amounts paid to highly
- 2 compensated individuals, an additional amount, not to exceed
- 3 \$18,000,000, of the wages or salaries or other compensation for
- 4 writers, directors, including music directors, producers, and
- 5 performers, other than background actors with no scripted lines,
- 6 shall constitute qualified film production expenses; [and]
 - (2) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2023, c.97)

(3) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2023, c.97)

film production expenses; and

- (4) (a) for a New Jersey studio partner that incurs \$25,000,000 or more in qualified film production expenses in the State, which shall be determined by including the additional amount provided in this paragraph, in excess of amounts paid to highly compensated individuals, an additional amount, not to exceed \$72,000,000, of the wages or salaries or other compensation for writers, directors, including music directors, producers, and performers, other than background actors with no scripted lines, shall constitute qualified
 - (b) for a New Jersey studio partner that incurs \$125,000,000 or more in qualified film production expenses in the State, which shall be determined by including the additional amount provided in this paragraph, for the production of a film that is a feature film, in excess of the amounts paid to highly compensated individuals, amounts paid for script costs, amounts paid or incurred for deferred compensation, including advances on deferred compensation, an additional amount, not to exceed \$72,000,000, of the wages and salaries or other compensation for writers, directors, including music directors, producers, and performers, other than background actors with no scripted lines, shall constitute qualified film production expenses;
 - (5) for a New Jersey film-lease production company that incurs less than \$50,000,000 in qualified film production expenses in the State, which shall be determined by including the additional amount provided in this paragraph, in excess of amounts paid to highly compensated individuals, an additional amount, not to exceed \$15,000,000, of the wages or salaries or other compensation for writers, directors, including music directors, producers, and performers, other than background actors with no scripted lines, shall constitute qualified film production expenses; and
 - (6) for a New Jersey film-lease production company that incurs \$50,000,000 or more in qualified film production expenses in the State, which shall be determined by including the additional amount provided in this paragraph, in excess of amounts paid to highly compensated individuals, an additional amount, not to exceed \$60,000,000, of the wages or salaries or other compensation for writers, directors, including music directors, producers, and performers, other than background actors with no scripted lines, shall constitute qualified film production expenses.
- 48 <u>"Qualified post-production company" means a corporation,</u>
 49 <u>partnership, limited liability company, or other entity engaged in</u>

post-production, including visual effects activities on a film or films described in this section, including, but not limited to, a film or films that do not satisfy the requirements of subparagraph (a) of paragraph (1) of subsection a. of this section.

¹["Television series that relocated to New Jersey" means a scripted television series of at least six episodes, with an average production budget of \$2,500,000 per episode, and for which all prior seasons of the series were filmed outside New Jersey.]¹

"Total digital media content production expenses" means costs for services performed and property used or consumed in the production of digital media content.

"Total film production expenses" means costs for services performed and tangible personal property used or consumed in the production of a film.

i. A business that is not a "taxpayer" as defined and used in the "Corporation Business Tax Act (1945)," P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-1 et seq.) and therefore is not directly allowed a credit under this section, but is a business entity that is classified as a partnership for federal income tax purposes and is ultimately owned by a business entity that is a "corporation" as defined in subsection (c) of section 4 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-4), or a limited liability company formed under the "Revised Uniform Limited Liability Company Act," P.L.2012, c.50 (C.42:2C-1 et seq.), or qualified to do business in this State as a foreign limited liability company, with one member, and is wholly owned by the business entity that is a "corporation" as defined in subsection (c) of section 4 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-4), but otherwise meets all other requirements of this section, shall be considered an eligible applicant and "taxpayer" as that term is used in this section.

30 (cf: P.L.2024, c.33, s.2)

- 2. Section 2 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54A:4-12b) is amended to read as follows:
- 2. a. (1) A taxpayer, upon approval of an application to the authority and the director, shall be allowed a credit against the tax otherwise due for the taxable year under the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., in an amount equal to, in the case of a taxpayer designated as a New Jersey studio partner or New Jersey film-lease production company, 40 percent, and in the case of a taxpayer other than a New Jersey studio partner or New Jersey film-lease production company, 35 percent, of the qualified film production expenses of the taxpayer during a taxable year commencing on or after July 1, 2018 but before July 1, [2039] 2049, provided that:
- (a) at least 60 percent of the total film production expenses, exclusive of post-production costs, of the taxpayer are incurred for services performed and goods purchased through vendors authorized to do business in New Jersey or the qualified film

- 1 production expenses of the taxpayer during the taxable year for 2 services performed and goods purchased through vendors 3 authorized to do business in New Jersey exceed \$1,000,000 per 4 production ¹[; and, for reality shows, at least 60 percent of the total 5 film production expenses, exclusive of post-production costs, of the 6 taxpayer are incurred for services performed and goods purchased 7 through vendors authorized to do business in New Jersey and the 8 qualified film production expenses of the taxpayer during the 9 privilege period for services performed and goods purchased, 10 through vendors authorized to do business in New Jersey exceed 11 \$1,000,000 per production**]**¹;
 - (b) principal photography of the film commences within 180 days from the date of the original application for the tax credit;

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- (c) the film includes, when determined to be appropriate by the commission, at no cost to the State, marketing materials promoting this State as a film and entertainment production destination, which materials shall include placement of a "Filmed in New Jersey" or "Produced in New Jersey" statement, or an appropriate logo approved by the commission, in the end credits of the film;
- (d) the taxpayer submits a tax credit verification report prepared by an independent certified public accountant licensed in this State in accordance with subsection g. of this section; and
- (e) the taxpayer complies with the withholding requirements provided for payments to loan out companies and independent contractors in accordance with subsection h. of this section.
- (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) of subsection a. of this section to the contrary, the tax credit allowed pursuant to this subsection against the tax otherwise due for the taxable year under the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., shall be in an amount equal to, in the case of a taxpayer designated as a New Jersey studio partner [or New Jersey film-lease production company **]**, **[**35**]** 40 percent, in the case of a taxpayer designated as a New Jersey film-lease production company, 35 percent, and in the case of a taxpayer other than a New Jersey studio partner or New Jersey film-lease production company, 30 percent, of the qualified film production expenses of the taxpayer during a taxable year that are incurred for services performed and tangible personal property purchased for use at a sound stage or other location that is located in the State within a 30mile radius of the intersection of Eighth Avenue/Central Park West, Broadway, and West 59th Street/Central Park South, New York, New York.
 - ¹**[**(3) In addition to the amount of tax credits otherwise allowed pursuant to this subsection, a taxpayer that is designated as a New Jersey studio partner, or New Jersey film-lease production company shall be eligible for an additional tax credit in an amount equal to four and one-half percent of the taxpayer's qualified film production expenses incurred during a taxable year commencing on

or after July 1, 2025 but before July 1, 2049 for a film that is a television series that relocated to New Jersey. I

- b. (1) A taxpayer, upon approval of an application to the authority and the director, shall be allowed a credit against the tax otherwise due for the taxable year under the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., in an amount equal to: 30 percent of the qualified digital media content production expenses of the taxpayer during a taxable year commencing on or after July 1, 2018 but before July 1, [2039] 2049, provided that:
 - (a) at least \$2,000,000 of the total digital media content production expenses of the taxpayer are incurred for services performed and goods purchased through vendors authorized to do business in New Jersey, provided, however, that for applications submitted after the effective date of P.L.2024, c.33, qualified wage and salary payments made to full-time employees working on digital media shall not be deemed an expense incurred for services performed;
 - (b) at least 50 percent of the qualified digital media content production expenses of the taxpayer are for wages and salaries paid to full-time or full-time equivalent employees in New Jersey;
 - (c) the taxpayer submits a tax credit verification report prepared by an independent certified public accountant licensed in this State in accordance with subsection g. of this section; and
 - (d) the taxpayer complies with the withholding requirements provided for payments to loan out companies and independent contractors in accordance with subsection h. of this section.
- (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) of subsection b. of this section to the contrary, the tax credit allowed pursuant to this subsection against the tax otherwise due for the taxable year under the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., shall be in an amount equal to 35 percent [for] of the qualified digital media content production expenses of the taxpayer during a taxable year that are incurred for services performed and tangible personal property purchased through vendors whose primary place of business is located in Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Mercer, or Salem County.
 - (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) of this subsection to the contrary, the tax credit allowed pursuant to this subsection against the tax otherwise due for the taxable year under the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., shall be in an amount equal to 40 percent of the qualified digital media content production expenses of the taxpayer during a taxable year that are incurred for post-production services, including visual effects services performed at a New Jersey film-lease [production] partner facility, that are incurred by a taxpayer that is a New Jersey film-lease post-production company, or that are incurred by a
- 48 <u>taxpayer that is</u> a New Jersey studio partner, provided that:

- (a) at least \$500,000 of the qualified digital media content production expenses [of the taxpayer] are incurred for post-production services, including visual effects services performed at a New Jersey film-lease [production] partner facility, are incurred by a taxpayer that is a New Jersey film-lease post-production company, or are incurred by a taxpayer that is a New Jersey studio partner;
 - (b) the taxpayer submits a tax credit verification report prepared by an independent certified public accountant licensed in this State in accordance with subsection g. of this section; and

- (c) the taxpayer complies with the withholding requirements provided for payments to loan out companies and independent contractors in accordance with subsection h. of this section.
- (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) of this subsection to the contrary, the tax credit allowed pursuant to this subsection against the tax otherwise due for the taxable year under the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., shall be in an amount equal to 35 percent of the qualified digital media content production expenses of the taxpayer during a taxable year that are incurred for post-production services, including visual effects services performed by a qualified [independent] post-production company, provided that:
- (a) at least \$500,000 of the qualified digital media content production expenses of the taxpayer are incurred for post-production services, including visual effects services performed by a <u>taxpayer that is a qualified [independent]</u> post-production company, which may include qualified digital media content production expenses incurred for post-production, including visual effects activities performed by a business entity in which the qualified post-production company has an ownership interest of at least 51 percent;
- (b) the taxpayer submits a tax credit verification report prepared by an independent certified public accountant licensed in this State in accordance with subsection g. of this section; and
- (c) the taxpayer complies with the withholding requirements provided for payments to loan out companies and independent contractors in accordance with subsection h. of this section.
- c. No tax credit shall be allowed pursuant to this section for any costs or expenses included in the calculation of any other tax credit or exemption granted pursuant to a claim made on a tax return filed with the director, or included in the calculation of an award of business assistance or incentive, for a period of time that coincides with the taxable year for which a tax credit authorized pursuant to this section is allowed. The order of priority in which the tax credit allowed pursuant to this section and any other tax credits allowed by law may be taken shall be as prescribed by the director. The amount of the tax credit applied under this section against the tax otherwise due under the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., for a taxable year, when taken

together with any other payments, credits, deductions, and adjustments allowed by law shall not reduce the tax liability of the taxpayer to an amount less than zero. The amount of the tax credit otherwise allowable under this section which cannot be applied for the taxable year due to the limitations of this subsection or under other provisions of N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., may be carried forward, if necessary, to the seven taxable years following the taxable year for which the tax credit was allowed.

- d. (1) A business entity that is classified as a partnership for federal income tax purposes shall not be allowed a tax credit pursuant to this section directly, but the amount of tax credit of a taxpayer in respect of a distributive share of entity income, shall be determined by allocating to the taxpayer that proportion of the tax credit acquired by the entity that is equal to the taxpayer's share, whether or not distributed, of the total distributive income or gain of the entity for its taxable year ending within or with the taxpayer's taxable year.
- (2) A New Jersey S Corporation shall not be allowed a tax credit pursuant to this section directly, but the amount of tax credit of a taxpayer in respect of a pro rata share of S Corporation income, shall be determined by allocating to the taxpayer that proportion of the tax credit acquired by the New Jersey S Corporation that is equal to the taxpayer's share, whether or not distributed, of the total pro rata share of S Corporation income of the New Jersey S Corporation for its privilege period ending within or with the taxpayer's taxable year.

A business entity that is not a gross income "taxpayer" as defined and used in the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., and therefore is not directly allowed a credit under this section, but otherwise meets all the other requirements of this section, shall be considered an eligible applicant and "taxpayer" as that term is used in this section, and the application of an otherwise allowed credit amount shall be distributed to appropriate gross income taxpayers pursuant to the other requirements of this subsection.

e. (1) A taxpayer, with an application for a tax credit provided for in subsection a. or subsection b. of this section, may apply to the authority and the director for a tax credit transfer certificate in lieu of the taxpayer being allowed any amount of the tax credit against the tax liability of the taxpayer. The tax credit transfer certificate, upon receipt thereof by the taxpayer from the authority and the director, may be sold or assigned, in full or in part, to any other taxpayer that may have a tax liability under the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., [or] the "Corporation Business Tax Act (1945)," P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-1 et seq.), sections 2 and 3 of P.L.1945, c.132 (C.54:18A-2 and C.54A:18A-3), section 1 of P.L.1950, c.231 (C.17:32-15), or N.J.S.17B:23-5, in exchange for private financial assistance to be provided by the purchaser or assignee to the taxpayer that has applied for and been

1 granted the tax credit. The tax credit transfer certificate provided to 2 the taxpayer shall include a statement waiving the taxpayer's right 3 to claim that amount of the tax credit against the tax imposed 4 pursuant to N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. that the taxpayer has elected to 5 sell or assign. The sale or assignment of any amount of a tax credit 6 transfer certificate allowed under this section shall not be 7 exchanged for consideration received by the taxpayer of less than 8 75 percent of the transferred tax credit amount. Any amount of a 9 tax credit transfer certificate used by a purchaser or assignee against 10 a tax liability under N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. shall be subject to the 11 same limitations and conditions that apply to the use of a tax credit 12 pursuant to subsections c. and d. of this section. Any amount of a 13 tax credit transfer certificate obtained by a purchaser or assignee under subsection e. of this section may be applied against the 14 15 purchaser's or assignee's tax liability under P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-1 et seq.) [and] ¹[, P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-1 et 16 seq.)]¹, sections 2 and 3 of P.L.1945, c.132 (C.54:18A-2 and 17 18 C.54A:18A-3), section 1 of P.L.1950, c.231 (C.17:32-15), or 19 N.J.S.17B:23-5 shall be subject to the same limitations and 20 conditions that apply to the use of a credit pursuant to subsection c. 21 of section 1 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b). 22

(2) A ¹credit issued to a ¹ taxpayer, including the purchaser or assignee of a tax credit transfer certificate, may first ¹[use the credit in] be taken by the tax certificate holder for the tax period for which it was issued, ¹for¹ the tax period in which it was issued, or in any tax period ¹ [after the tax period for which it was issued, up to and including the next three successive tax periods after receipt by the purchaser] during the time a business is required to maintain the project at a location in this State, subject to the carryforward provisions of this section. The tax credit transfer certificate holder may transfer the tax credit amount on or after the date of issuance for use by the transferee in the tax period for which it was issued, in the tax period for which it was issued, or in any of the next successive tax periods, subject to the carryforward provisions of this section. The tax certificate holder or transferee may first use the credit against tax liabilities in the tax period in which it was issued or in a succeeding tax period, as authorized in this paragraph, subject to the carryforward provisions in this section¹, without the need to amend the return for the year for which the credit was issued.

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f. (1) The value of tax credits, including tax credits allowed through the granting of tax credit transfer certificates, approved by the director and the authority pursuant to subsection a. of this section and pursuant to subsection a. of section 1 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b), and except as provided in section 98 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-362), to taxpayers, other than New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-lease production companies, shall not exceed a cumulative total of \$100,000,000 in fiscal year 2019 and in each fiscal year thereafter prior to fiscal year [2040]

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1 2050 to apply against the tax imposed pursuant to the "New Jersey 2 Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., and pursuant to 3 section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5). In addition to the 4 limitation on the value of tax credits approved by the director for 5 New Jersey film-lease production companies and the limitation on the value of tax credits approved by the director for other taxpayers 6 7 imposed by this paragraph, and except as provided in section 98 of 8 P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-362), the value of tax credits, including 9 tax credits allowed through the granting of tax credit transfer 10 certificates, approved by the director and the authority pursuant to 11 subsection a. of this section and pursuant to subsection a. of section 12 1 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b) to New Jersey studio partners 13 shall not exceed a cumulative total of \$100,000,000 in fiscal year 14 2021 and in each fiscal year thereafter prior to fiscal year 2024, and 15 shall not exceed a cumulative total of \$150,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 and in each fiscal year thereafter prior to fiscal year [2040] 16 17 ¹[2026, and shall not exceed a cumulative total of \$300,000,000 in 18 fiscal year 2026 and in each fiscal year thereafter prior to fiscal 19 <u>year</u> 1 2050, to apply against the tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5) and the tax imposed pursuant to 20 21 the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. 22 Beginning in fiscal year [2023] ¹[2026] 2023¹, in addition to the 23 cumulative total tax credits made available for New Jersey studio 24 partners pursuant to this paragraph and subsection d. of section 98 25 P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-362), up to an [\$400,000,000] 1 [\$250,000,000] \$400,000,000 may be made 26 27 available annually, in the discretion of the authority, to New Jersey 28 studio partners for the award of tax credits, including tax credits 29 allowed through the granting of tax credit transfer certificates, 30 pursuant to subsection a. of this section and subsection a. of section 31 1 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b), from the funds made 32 available pursuant to subparagraph (i) of paragraph (1) of 33 subsection b. of section 98 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-362). In 34 addition to the limitation on the value of tax credits approved by the 35 director for New Jersey studio partners and the limitation on the 36 value of tax credits approved by the director for other taxpayers 37 imposed by this paragraph, and except as provided in section 98 of 38 P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-362), the value of tax credits, including 39 tax credits allowed through the granting of tax credit transfer 40 certificates, approved by the director and the authority pursuant to 41 subsection a. of this section and pursuant to subsection a. of section 42 1 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b) to New Jersey film-lease 43 production companies shall not exceed a cumulative total of \$100,000,000 in fiscal year 2021 and in each fiscal year thereafter 44 45 prior to fiscal year 2024, and shall not exceed a cumulative total of 46 \$150,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 and in each fiscal year thereafter prior to fiscal year ¹[2040] 2050¹, to apply against the tax imposed 47 48 pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5) and the tax

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1 imposed pursuant to the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," 2 N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. Beginning in fiscal year 2023, in addition to 3 the cumulative total tax credits made available for New Jersey film-4 lease production companies pursuant to this paragraph and 5 subsection d. of section 98 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-362), up to 6 an additional \$250,000,000 may be made available annually, in the 7 discretion of the authority, to New Jersey film-lease production 8 companies for the award of tax credits, including tax credits 9 allowed through the granting of tax credit transfer certificates, 10 pursuant to subsection a. of this section and subsection a. of section 11 1 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b), from the funds made 12 available pursuant to subparagraph (i) of paragraph (1) of 13 subsection b. of section 98 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-362). 14 Approvals made to New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey 15 film-lease production companies shall be subject to award 16 agreements with the authority detailing obligations of the awardee 17 and outcomes relating to events of default, including, but not 18 limited to, recapture, forfeiture, and termination, except that in the 19 event of a recapture of tax credits, the tax credits shall only be 20 recaptured from the initial recipient of the tax credits, not the 21 purchaser or assignee of a tax credit transfer certificate. 22 Notwithstanding any provision of this subsection or other law to the 23 contrary, if a film production company designated as a New Jersey 24 studio partner ceases to qualify for its designation as a New Jersey 25 film studio partner and becomes designated as a New Jersey film-26 lease partner facility, the authority shall reduce the cumulative total 27 amount of tax credits, including tax credits allowed through the 28 granting of tax credit transfer certificates, made available to New 29 Jersey studio partners in each fiscal year and shall increase the 30 cumulative total amount of tax credits permitted to be approved for 31 New Jersey film-lease production companies in each fiscal year by 32 a corresponding amount pursuant to a formula established in rules 33 adopted by the authority which shall consider the volume of 34 applications submitted by New Jersey studio partners and New 35 Jersey film-lease production facilities, the cumulative total amount 36 of tax credits allowed to New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey 37 film-lease production facilities in the prior fiscal year, the total 38 square footage of facility space occupied in the State by New Jersey 39 studio partners and New Jersey film-lease production facilities, and 40 any other factors that the authority deems appropriate. 41 agreements between the authority and New Jersey studio partners 42 shall include a requirement for each New Jersey studio partner to 43 occupy the production facility developed, purchased, or leased as a 44 condition of designation as a New Jersey studio partner for the 45 duration of the commitment period. If a New Jersey studio partner 46 fails to occupy the production facility developed, purchased, or 47 leased as a condition of designation as a New Jersey studio partner 48 for the duration of the commitment period or otherwise fails to 49 satisfy the conditions for designation as a New Jersey studio

partner, except for the failure to occupy the production facility for any reason outside the control of the New Jersey studio partner, ¹subject to any rules the authority may determine necessary to implement this provision, including, but not limited to, a definition of reasons outside the control of the New Jersey studio partner, 1 the authority [shall] may recapture the portion of the tax credit that was only available to the taxpayer by virtue of the taxpayer's designation as a New Jersey studio partner, and all films for which an initial approval has been given, but for which the authority has not approved final documentation, shall [terminate] be reduced to eliminate the portion of the tax credits only available by virtue of such designation. Notwithstanding any law, regulation, or rule to the contrary, in the event of a recapture of tax credits, the tax credits shall only be recaptured from the initial recipient of the tax credits, not the purchaser or assignee of a tax credit transfer The authority shall establish a non-binding, certificate. administrative pre-certification process for potentially eligible projects.

If the cumulative total amount of tax credits, and tax credit transfer certificates, allowed to taxpayers for taxable years or privilege periods commencing during a single fiscal year under subsection a. of this section and subsection a. of section 1 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b) exceeds the amount of tax credits available in that fiscal year, then taxpayers who have first applied for and have not been allowed a tax credit or tax credit transfer certificate amount for that reason shall have their applications approved by the authority, provided the application otherwise satisfies the requirements of this section, and shall be allowed the amount of tax credit or tax credit transfer certificate on the first day of the next succeeding fiscal year in which tax credits and tax credit transfer certificates under subsection a. of this section and subsection a. of section 1 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b) are not in excess of the amount of credits available.

Notwithstanding any provision of this paragraph to the contrary, for any fiscal year in which the amount of tax credits approved to New Jersey studio partners, New Jersey film-lease production companies, or taxpayers other than New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-lease production companies pursuant to this paragraph is less than the cumulative total amount of tax credits permitted to be approved to each such category in that fiscal year, the authority shall certify the amount of the remaining tax credits available for approval to each such category in that fiscal year, and shall increase the cumulative total amount of tax credits permitted to be approved for New Jersey studio partners, New Jersey film-lease production companies, or taxpayers other than New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-lease production companies in the subsequent fiscal year by the certified amount remaining from the prior fiscal year. The authority shall also certify, for each fiscal

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1 year, the amount of tax credits that were previously approved, but 2 that the taxpayer is not able to redeem or transfer to another 3 taxpayer under this section, and shall increase the cumulative total 4 amount of tax credits permitted to be approved for New Jersey 5 studio partners, New Jersey film-lease production companies, or 6 taxpayers other than New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey 7 film-lease production companies in the subsequent fiscal year by 8 the amount of tax credits previously approved for each such 9 category, but not subject to redemption or 10 ¹Notwithstanding any provision of this paragraph to the contrary, beginning in fiscal year 2028, if the amount of tax credits approved to 11 12 taxpayers other than New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-13 lease production companies pursuant to this paragraph is less than the 14 cumulative total amount of tax credits permitted to be approved to 15 taxpayers other than New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-16 lease production companies in that fiscal year, the authority shall 17 certify the amount of the remaining tax credits available for approval 18 in that fiscal year, which certified amount shall not exceed 19 \$100,000,000 in any fiscal year, and shall increase the cumulative total 20 amount of tax credits permitted to be approved for New Jersey studio 21 partners pursuant to subsection a. of this section and subsection a. of 22 section 1 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b) in the next subsequent 23 fiscal year by the certified amount remaining for taxpayers other than 24 New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-lease production 25 companies from the prior fiscal year. If the certified amount 26 remaining from the prior fiscal year is less than \$100,000,000, then, in 27 addition to the tax credits remaining from the prior fiscal year, the 28 difference between \$100,000,000 and the certified amount shall be 29 made available to New Jersey studio partners, first from any funds 30 available pursuant to subparagraph (f) of paragraph (1) of subsection 31 b. of section 98 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-362), not including tax 32 credits made available for transformative projects, and then, if there 33 are insufficient funds available pursuant to subparagraph (f) of 34 paragraph (1) of subsection b. of section 98 of P.L.2020, c.156 35 (C.34:1B-362), from the tax credits allocated in the current fiscal year 36 to taxpayers other than New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey 37 film-lease production companies.¹ 38

(2) The value of tax credits, including tax credits allowed through the granting of tax credit transfer certificates, approved by the authority and the director pursuant to subsection b. of this section and pursuant to subsection b. of section 1 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b) shall not exceed a cumulative total of \$30,000,000 in fiscal year 2019 and in each fiscal year thereafter prior to fiscal year [2040] 2050 to apply against the tax imposed pursuant to the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. and the tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5).

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If the total amount of tax credits and tax credit transfer certificates allowed to taxpayers for taxable years or privilege periods commencing during a single fiscal year under subsection b. of this section and subsection b. of section 1 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b) exceeds the amount of tax credits available in that year, then taxpayers who have first applied for and have not been allowed a tax credit or tax credit transfer certificate amount for that reason shall have their applications approved by the authority, provided the application otherwise satisfies the requirements of this section, and shall be allowed the amount of tax credit or tax credit transfer certificate on the first day of the next succeeding fiscal year in which tax credits and tax credit transfer certificates under subsection b. of this section and subsection b. of section 1 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b) are not in excess of the amount of credits available.

Beginning in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, in addition to the total amount of tax credits and tax credit transfer certificates allowed to taxpayers for privilege periods or taxable years commencing during a single fiscal year under subsection b. of this section and subsection b. of section 1 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b), up to an additional \$100,000,000 may be made available, in the discretion of the authority for the award of tax credits, including tax credits allowed through the granting of tax credit transfer certificates, pursuant to subsection b. of this section and subsection b. of section 1 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b), from the funds made available to taxpayers other than New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-lease production companies pursuant to paragraph (3) of subsection d. of section 98 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-362).

Notwithstanding any provision of this paragraph to the contrary, for any fiscal year in which the amount of tax credits approved pursuant to this paragraph is less than the cumulative total amount of tax credits permitted to be approved in that fiscal year, the authority shall certify the amount of the remaining tax credits available for approval in that fiscal year, and shall increase the cumulative total amount of tax credits permitted to be approved in the subsequent fiscal year by the certified amount remaining from the prior fiscal year. The authority shall also certify, for each fiscal year, the amount of tax credits that were previously approved, but that the taxpayer is not able to redeem or transfer to another taxpayer under this section, and shall increase the cumulative total amount of tax credits permitted to be approved in the subsequent fiscal year by the amount of tax credits previously approved, but not subject to redemption or transfer.

g. A taxpayer shall submit to the authority and the director a report prepared by an independent certified public accountant licensed in this State to verify the taxpayer's tax credit claim following the completion of the production. A New Jersey studio partner that makes deferred compensation payments based on work

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1 or services provided on a production may file a supplemental report 2 prepared by an independent certified public accountant, pursuant to 3 agreed-upon procedures prescribed by the authority and the 4 director, no later than [two] four years after the date on which the 5 production concludes. The deferred compensation payments, 6 including deferred compensation payments made directly to a bona 7 fide labor union, shall constitute qualified film production expenses 8 as if the expenses were incurred at the time of production, provided 9 there are credits available and subject to the authority's review. The 10 report shall be prepared by the independent certified public 11 accountant pursuant to agreed-upon procedures prescribed by the 12 authority and the director, and shall include such information and 13 documentation as shall be determined to be necessary by the 14 authority and the director to substantiate the qualified film 15 production expenses or the qualified digital media content 16 production expenses of the taxpayer. A single report with 17 attachments deemed necessary by the authority shall be submitted 18 electronically. Upon receipt of the report, the authority and the 19 director shall review the findings of the independent certified public 20 accountant's report, and shall make a determination as to the 21 qualified film production expenses or the qualified digital media content production expenses of the taxpayer. The authority's and 22 23 the director's review shall include, but shall not be limited to: a 24 review of all non-payroll qualified film production expense items 25 and non-payroll digital media content production expense items 26 over \$20,000; a review of 100 randomly selected non-payroll 27 qualified film production expense items and non-payroll digital 28 media content production expense items that are greater than 29 \$2,500, but less than \$20,000; a review of 100 randomly selected 30 non-payroll qualified film production expense items and non-31 payroll digital media content production expense items that are less 32 than \$2,500; a review of the qualified wages for the 15 employees, 33 independent contractors, or loan-out companies with the highest 34 qualified wages; and a review of the qualified wages for 35 35 randomly selected employees, independent contractors, or loan-out 36 companies with qualified wages other than the 15 employees, 37 independent contractors, or loan-out companies with the highest 38 qualified wages. The taxpayer's qualified film production expenses 39 and digital media content production expenses shall be adjusted 40 based on any discrepancies identified for the reviewed non-payroll 41 qualified film production expense items, non-payroll digital media 42 content production expense items and qualified wages. 43 taxpayer's qualified film production expenses and digital media 44 content production expenses also shall be adjusted based on the 45 projection of any discrepancies identified based on the review of 46 randomly selected expense items or wages pursuant to this 47 subsection to the extent that the discrepancies exceed one percent of 48 the total reviewed non-payroll qualified film production expense 49 items, non-payroll digital media content production expense items,

or qualified wages. The determination shall be provided in writing to the taxpayer, and a copy of the written determination shall be included in the filing of a return that includes a claim for a tax credit allowed pursuant to this section.

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- 5 A taxpayer shall withhold from each payment to a loan out 6 company, to an independent contractor, or to a homeowner for the 7 use of a personal residence an amount equal to 6.37 percent of the 8 payment otherwise due. The amounts withheld shall be deemed to 9 be withholding of liability pursuant to the "New Jersey Gross 10 Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., and the taxpayer shall be 11 deemed to have the rights, duties, and responsibilities of an 12 employer pursuant to chapter 7 of Title 54A of the New Jersey Statutes. The director shall allocate the amounts withheld for a 13 14 taxable year to the accounts of the individuals who are employees 15 of a loan out company in proportion to the employee's payment by 16 the loan out company in connection with a trade, profession, or 17 occupation carried on in this State or for the rendition of personal 18 services performed in this State during the taxable year. A loan out 19 company that reports its payments to employees in connection with 20 a trade, profession, or occupation carried on in this State or for the 21 rendition of personal services performed in this State during a 22 taxable year shall be relieved of its duties and responsibilities as an 23 employer pursuant to chapter 7 of Title 54A of the New Jersey 24 Statutes for the taxable year for any payments relating to the 25 payments on which the taxpayer withheld. Notwithstanding any 26 provision of this section to the contrary, qualified film production 27 expenses and qualified digital media content production expenses 28 shall include any payments made by the taxpayer to a loan out 29 company for services performed in New Jersey by individuals who are employees of the loan out company and whose wages and 30 31 salaries are subject to withholding, but not subject to tax under the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., due to 32 33 the provisions of a reciprocity agreement with another state. 34 Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, 35 deferred compensation payments made directly to a bona fide labor 36 union on behalf of an individual that performed services on a 37 production that tax under the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," 38 N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. was not withheld shall constitute qualified 39 film production expenses, provided that the payment otherwise
 - i. As used in this section:

satisfies the requirements of this section.

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- "Authority" means the New Jersey Economic Development Authority.
- "Business assistance or incentive" means "business assistance or incentive" as that term is defined pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2007, c.101 (C.54:50-39).
- "Commission" means the Motion Picture and TelevisionDevelopment Commission.

"Commitment period" means, for New Jersey studio partners, the period beginning with the commencement of the eligibility period and **[**expiring**]** continuing for a minimum of 10 years following:

- (1) in the case of a taxpayer developing or purchasing a production facility, the issuance of a temporary certificate of occupancy for the production facility developed or purchased as a condition of designation as a New Jersey studio partner; or
- (2) in the case of a taxpayer leasing a production facility, commencement of the lease term for the production facility leased as a condition of designation as a New Jersey studio partner.

"Digital media content" means the following digitally formatted and distributed content, which content includes data or information created in analog form but reformatted in digital form: animation; video games; visual effects; interactive media, including virtual, augmented, or mixed reality; content containing text, graphics, or photographs; sound; and video. "Digital media content" shall not mean content offerings generated by the end user (including postings on electronic bulletin boards and chat rooms); content offerings comprised primarily of local news, events, weather, or local market reports; public service content; electronic commerce platforms (such as retail and wholesale websites); websites or content offerings that contain obscene material as defined pursuant to N.J.S.2C:34-2 and N.J.S.2C:34-3; websites or content that are produced or maintained primarily for private, industrial, corporate, or institutional purposes; or digital media content acquired or licensed by the taxpayer for distribution or incorporation into the taxpayer's digital media content.

"Eligibility period" means, with respect to New Jersey studio partners, the period in which a New Jersey studio partner may claim a tax credit for qualified film production expenses, including expenses that would not constitute qualified film production expenses but for the taxpayer's designation as a New Jersey studio partner, beginning the earlier of the commencement of the principal photography for the New Jersey studio partner's initial film in New Jersey or, in the case of a taxpayer developing or purchasing a production facility, at the issuance of a temporary certificate of occupancy for the production facility developed or purchased as a condition of designation as a New Jersey studio partner and, in the case of a taxpayer leasing a production facility, at the commencement of the lease term for the production facility leased as a condition of designation as a New Jersey studio partner, and extending thereafter for a term of not [more] less than 10 years.

"Film" means a feature film, a television series, or a television show of 22 minutes or more in length, intended for a national audience, or a television series or a television show of 22 minutes or more in length intended for a national or regional audience, including, but not limited to, a game show, award show, talk show, competition or variety show filmed before a live audience, or other gala event filmed and produced at a nonprofit arts and cultural

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1 venue receiving State funding. "Film" shall not include a 2 production featuring news, current events, weather, and market 3 reports or public programming; a sports event; a production that 4 solicits funds; a production containing obscene material as defined 5 under N.J.S.2C:34-2 and N.J.S.2C:34-3; a production primarily for 6 private, industrial, corporate, or institutional purposes; or a reality 7 show, except if the production company has obtained a minimum 8 ¹[six-episode] four-episode order from, and is commissioned and 9 scheduled to premiere on, a major linear network or streaming 10 Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, for a New Jersey studio partner, "film" shall include an 11 12 ongoing television production that relocated to New Jersey and 13 features news or current events, which may include sports themed 14 current events programming, but shall not include a sports event, 15 provided that the ongoing television production relocates to a ¹[New Jersey studio partner] ¹ facility that is leased or owned by 16 the New Jersey studio partner ¹and for which facility such New 17 18 Jersey studio partner received its designation as a New Jersey studio partner¹. "Film" shall not include an award show or other gala 19 event that is not filmed and produced at a nonprofit arts and cultural 20 21 venue receiving State funding.

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"Full-time or full-time equivalent employee" means an individual employed by the taxpayer for consideration for at least 35 hours a week, or who renders any other standard of service generally accepted by custom or practice as full-time or full-time equivalent employment, whose wages are subject to withholding as provided in the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., or whose wages are not subject to tax under the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., due to the provisions of a reciprocity agreement with another state, regardless of whether the individual is a resident or nonresident taxpayer, or who is a partner of a taxpayer, who works for the partnership for at least 35 hours a week, or who renders any other standard of service generally accepted by custom or practice as full-time or full-time equivalent employment, and whose distributive share of income, gain, loss, or deduction, or whose guaranteed payments, or any combination thereof, is subject to the payment of estimated taxes, as provided in the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. "Full-time or full-time equivalent employee" shall not include an individual who works as an independent contractor or on a consulting basis for the taxpayer.

"Highly compensated individual" means **[**, for New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-lease production companies, an individual who directly or indirectly receives compensation in excess of \$500,000 for the performance of services used directly in a production and, for taxpayers other than New Jersey studio partners and New Jersey film-lease production companies, **]** an individual who directly or indirectly receives compensation in

excess of \$750,000 for the performance of services used directly in a production. An individual receives compensation indirectly when the taxpayer pays a loan out company that, in turn, pays the individual for the performance of services.

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5 "Incurred in New Jersey" means, for any application submitted after the effective date of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b et al.), 6 7 pursuant to which a tax credit has not been allowed prior to the 8 effective date of P.L.2021, c.160, service performed within New 9 Jersey and tangible personal property used or consumed in New 10 Jersey. A service is performed in New Jersey to the extent that the 11 individual performing the service is physically located in New 12 Jersey while performing the service. Notwithstanding where the 13 property is delivered or acquired, rented tangible property is used or 14 consumed in New Jersey to the extent that the property is located in 15 New Jersey during its use or consumption and is rented from a 16 vendor authorized to do business in New Jersey and the film 17 production company provides to the authority the vendor's information in a form and manner prescribed by the authority. 18 19 Purchased tangible property is not used and consumed in New 20 Jersey unless it is purchased from a vendor authorized to do 21 business in New Jersey and is delivered to or acquired within New 22 Jersey; provided, however, that if a production is also located in 23 another jurisdiction, the purchased tangible property is used and 24 consumed in New Jersey, to the extent that the property is located 25 in New Jersey during its use or consumption, if the acquisition and 26 delivery of purchased tangible property is located in either New 27 Jersey or another jurisdiction where the production takes place. 28 Payment made to a homeowner for the use of a personal residence 29 located in the State for filming shall be deemed an expense incurred 30 in New Jersey notwithstanding the fact that such homeowner is not 31 a vendor authorized to do business in New Jersey, provided the 32 taxpayer has made the withholding required by subsection h. of this 33 section.

"Independent contractor" means an individual treated as an independent contractor for federal and State tax purposes who is contracted with by the taxpayer for the performance of services used directly in a production.

["Independent post-production company" means a corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or other entity principally engaged in the provision of post-production, including visual effects services for a film or films described in this section including a film or films that do not satisfy the requirements of subparagraph (a) of paragraph (1) of subsection a. of this section, which entity is not a publicly traded entity or for which entity no more than five percent of the beneficial ownership is owned directly or indirectly by a publicly traded entity.]

"Loan out company" means, for applications submitted prior to the effective date of P.L.2024, c.33, a personal service corporation or other entity with which a taxpayer contracts for the provision of

specified individual personnel, such as artists, crew, actors, producers, or directors for the performance of services used directly in a production and, for applications submitted on or after the effective date of P.L.2024, c.33, a personal service corporation or other entity, authorized to do business in New Jersey, that is contracted with by the taxpayer to provide specified individual personnel, such as artists, crew, actors, producers, or directors for the performance of services used directly in a production. "Loan out company" shall not include entities contracted with by the taxpayer to provide goods or ancillary contractor services such as catering, construction, trailers, equipment, or transportation.

"New Jersey film-lease partner facility" means:

- (1) (a) a production facility in New Jersey whose owner or developer has made the commitment to build, lease, or operate a production facility of 250,000 square feet or more, including a sound stage and production support space, such as production offices, mill space, or a backlot, for a period of five or more successive years, as evidenced by site plan approval or an executed redevelopment agreement with a governmental entity for the purpose of developing a production facility of 250,000 square feet or more;
- (b) a production facility built, leased, or operated by a production company designated as a New Jersey studio partner and which the New Jersey studio partner no longer occupies; or
- (c) a portion of a production facility owned by a New Jersey studio partner that is in excess of the space being utilized by the New Jersey studio partner; provided the spaces utilized and unutilized by the New Jersey studio partner both exceed 250,000 square feet.
- (2) A film production company that executes at least a 10-year lease for 250,000 square feet or more from a New Jersey film-lease partner facility shall be eligible to be designated as a New Jersey studio partner, provided the film production company otherwise complies with the eligibility requirements of the program.
- (3) Except for a production facility, or portion thereof, owned, built, leased, or operated by a film production company designated as a New Jersey studio partner by the authority on or before the 181st day next following the effective date of P.L.2023, c.97 (C.34:1B-4.2 et al.), in order for a production facility to be designated as a New Jersey film-lease partner facility, the owner or developer shall accept the acquisition by the authority, at the authority's discretion, of equity in the production facility, on commercially reasonable and customary terms and conditions determined by the authority and the New Jersey film-lease partner facility. A film production facility may receive its film-lease partner facility designation prior to executing an equity agreement with the authority provided final approval of such agreement occurs on or before the date on which production commences at the facility.

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(4) No more than three New Jersey production facilities may be designated as a New Jersey film-lease partner facility; provided, however, this limitation shall not apply to production facilities, or portions thereof, owned, built, leased, or operated by a film production company designated as a New Jersey studio partner.

6 "New Jersey film-lease post-production company" means a 7 taxpayer, including any taxpayer that is a member of a combined 8 group pursuant to section 23 of P.L.2018, c.48 (C.54:10A-4.11) or 9 any other entity in which the New Jersey film-lease post-production 10 company has a material ownership interest and a material 11 operational role in the production, that otherwise complies with the 12 eligibility requirements of the Film and Digital Media Tax Credit 13 Program, has made a commitment to lease or otherwise occupy 14 production space in a New Jersey film-lease partner facility, and 15 satisfies the criteria of paragraph (3) of subsection b. of this section. 16 If a New Jersey film-lease partner facility has not yet received a 17 temporary or final certificate of occupancy, a New Jersey film-lease 18 post-production company shall have entered into a lease or sublease 19 with the owner or developer of a New Jersey film-lease partner 20 facility, which lease or sublease shall be for not less than three 21 years of occupancy of the New Jersey film-lease partner facility and 22 include at least 36,000 square feet of gross rentable space. For 23 purposes of satisfying the requirements of subparagraph (a) of 24 paragraph (3) of subsection b. of this section, a New Jersey film-25 lease post-production company may include in an application the 26 qualified digital media content production expenses incurred for 27 post-production, including visual effects activities that are 28 performed by the New Jersey film-lease post-production company 29 or by a business entity in which the New Jersey film-lease postproduction company has an ownership interest of at least ¹[50] 51¹ 30 31 percent.

In the event that the authority determines that a New Jersey filmlease post-production company has failed to meet the qualifications of a New Jersey film-lease post-production company or otherwise comply with the provisions of this section, except for the failure to occupy the New Jersey film-lease partner facility for any reason outside the control of the New Jersey film-lease post-production company, ¹ subject to any rules the authority may determine necessary to implement this provision, including, but not limited to, a definition of reasons outside the control of the New Jersey film-lease postproduction company, the authority may recapture solely from that film production company the portion of any tax credits that had been awarded to that film production company that was only available to the film production company by virtue of the film production company's designation as a New Jersey film-lease postproduction company, except that the tax credits shall not be recaptured from the purchaser or assignee of a tax credit transfer certificate, and all films for which an initial approval has been

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1 given but for which the authority has not approved final 2 documentation shall be reduced to eliminate the portion of the tax 3 credits only available by virtue of such designation. If a New 4 Jersey film-lease post-production company was issued a film tax 5 credit on the basis of a lease or sublease with a New Jersey film-6 lease partner facility before that facility receives a temporary or 7 final certificate of occupancy, and the New Jersey film-lease post-8 production company fails to meet the qualifications of a New Jersey 9 film-lease post-production company or otherwise comply with the 10 applicable provisions in the definition of New Jersey film-lease ¹[production] post-production company, including, but not limited 11 to, the failure to occupy the required amount of space at a New 12 13 Jersey film-lease production facility for the required time, the 14 authority shall not recapture any tax credits within ¹ [two years] one 15 year¹ of the date of the New Jersey film-lease post-production company's lease with the New Jersey film-lease production facility, 16 17 which ¹ [may be extended at the discretion of the authority] the 18 authority shall extend for one additional year if the New Jersey film-19 lease production facility commences construction as evidenced by the 20 issuance of a building permit within one year of the date of the New 21 Jersey film-lease post-production company's lease with the New 22 Jersey film-lease production facility¹.

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"New Jersey film-lease production company" means a taxpayer, including any taxpayer that is a member of a combined group under section 23 of P.L.2018, c.48 (C.54:10A-4.11) or any other entity in which the film-lease production company has a material ownership interest and has oversight of operations of the entity, as demonstrated by the control of at least one board of director position or other management responsibilities, or has a material operational role in the production, that otherwise complies with the eligibility requirements of the Film and Digital Media Tax Credit Program and has made a commitment to lease or otherwise occupy production space in a New Jersey film-lease partner facility and who will shoot at least 50 percent of the total principal photography shoot days of the project within New Jersey. In addition to the forgoing, if a New Jersey film-lease partner facility has received a temporary or final certificate of occupancy, a film production company shall satisfy one of the following two criteria: (1) the film production company shoots at least 50 percent of the total principal photography shoot days ¹of the project ¹ within New Jersey at the New Jersey film-lease partner facility; or (2) the qualified film production expenses of the project for all services performed and goods used or consumed at the New Jersey film-lease partner facility and payments made for the use of the New Jersey film-lease partner facility equal or exceed 33 percent of the total qualified film production expenses of the project. In addition to the forgoing, if a New Jersey film-lease partner facility has not yet received a temporary or final certificate of occupancy, a film production

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1 company shall have entered into a lease or sublease with the owner 2 or developer of a New Jersey film-lease partner facility, which lease 3 or sublease is for not less than three years of occupancy of the New 4 Jersey film-lease partner facility and includes at least 36,000 square 5 feet of soundstage space, and the film production company shall 6 have executed a contract with the owner or developer of the New 7 Jersey film-lease partner facility to provide production services for 8 films produced by the film production company in New Jersey prior 9 to the New Jersey film-lease partner facility's receipt of a temporary or final certificate of occupancy. ¹A television series produced by a 10 New Jersey film-lease production company that satisfies the three 11 12 year lease requirements under this paragraph and that commences 13 principal photography in New Jersey prior to the New Jersey film-14 lease partner facility's receipt of a temporary or final certificate of 15 occupancy shall remain eligible to receive the tax credits only 16 available to the film production company by virtue of the film 17 production company's designation as a New Jersey film-lease 18 production company, provided that the series continues production 19 in New Jersey, the film production company continues to satisfy the 20 requirements of a New Jersey film-lease production company at 21 least through the conclusion of production of the television series in 22 New Jersey, and the television series continues to satisfy the 23 requirements for a film that commences production prior to the New 24 Jersey film-lease partner facility's receipt of a temporary or final certificate of occupancy. A "New Jersey film-lease production 25 company" may include any other member of a taxpayer's combined 26 27 group, pursuant to [P.L.2018, c.131] section 23 of P.L.2018, c.48 28 (C.54:10A-4.11), any other entity in which the New Jersey film-29 lease production company has a material ownership interest, or an 30 unrelated entity principally engaged in the production of a film or 31 other commercial audiovisual product with whom a designated New 32 Jersey film-lease production company contracts to perform film 33 production services on its behalf such that the designated New 34 Jersey film-lease production company: (1) controls such film or 35 product during preproduction, production, and postproduction [and 36 all results and proceeds of such services constitute, from the 37 moment of creation, "works made for hire" for the New Jersey film-38 lease production company pursuant to the provisions of the federal 39 "Copyright Act of 1976" (17 U.S.C. s.101 et seq.)]; or (2) controls 40 distribution rights for the resulting film or other commercial 41 audiovisual product, provided that the New Jersey film-lease 42 production company contracted with the unrelated entity prior to 43 qualified film production expenses being incurred. 44 In the event the authority determines that a New Jersey film-45 lease production company has failed to meet the qualifications of a 46 New Jersey film-lease production company or otherwise comply 47 with the provisions of this section, except for the failure to occupy 48 the New Jersey film-lease partner facility for any reason outside the

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1 control of the New Jersey film-lease production company, ¹subject to any rules the authority may determine necessary to implement this 2 3 provision, including, but not limited to, a definition of reasons outside the control of the New Jersey film-lease production company, the 4 5 authority may recapture solely from that film production company 6 the portion of any tax [credit] credits that had been awarded to that 7 film production company that was only available to the film 8 production company by virtue of the film production company's 9 designation as a New Jersey film-lease production company, except 10 that the tax credits shall not be recaptured from the purchaser or 11 assignee of a tax credit transfer certificate, and all films for which 12 an initial approval has been given, but for which the authority has 13 not approved final documentation, shall be reduced to eliminate the 14 portion of the tax credits only available by virtue of such 15 designation. If a New Jersey film-lease production company was 16 issued a film tax credit on the basis of a lease or sublease with a 17 New Jersey film-lease partner facility before that facility receives a 18 temporary or final certificate of occupancy and the New Jersey 19 film-lease production company fails to meet the qualifications of a 20 New Jersey film-lease production company or otherwise comply 21 with the applicable provisions in the definition of New Jersey film-22 lease production company, including, but not limited to, the failure 23 to occupy the required amount of space at a New Jersey film-lease 24 production facility for the required time, the authority shall not recapture any tax credits within ¹[two years] one year of the date 25 26 of the New Jersey film-lease production company's lease with the 27 New Jersey film-lease production facility, which ¹ [period may be 28 extended at the discretion of the authority I the authority shall extend 29 for one additional year if the New Jersey film-lease production facility 30 commences construction, as evidenced by the issuance of a building 31 permit, within one year of the date of the New Jersey film-lease 32 production company's lease with the New Jersey film-lease production 33 facility¹. 34

"New Jersey studio partner" means a film production company that has made a commitment to produce films or commercial audiovisual products in New Jersey and has developed, purchased, or executed a 10-year contract to lease a production facility of 250,000 square feet or more, or has executed a purchase contract with a governmental authority for the purpose of developing a production facility of 250,000 square feet or more within 48 months from the date of designation as a New Jersey studio partner; provided, however, the board, in its discretion, may extend the time to execute a purchase contract for an additional 12 months. Effective upon designation as a New Jersey studio partner, a film production company shall be eligible for a credit pursuant to this section, provided the film production company otherwise complies with the eligibility requirements of Film and Digital Media Tax Credit Program. In the event the authority determines that a film

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1 production company has failed to meet the qualifications of a New 2 Jersey studio partner or otherwise comply with the provisions of 3 this section, except for the failure to occupy a New Jersey film-4 lease partner facility for any reason outside the control of the New 5 Jersey studio partner, ¹subject to any rules the authority may determine necessary to implement this provision, including, but not 6 7 limited to, a definition of reasons outside the control of the New Jersey 8 studio partner, the authority may rescind the New Jersey studio 9 partner designation and may recapture solely from that film 10 production company the portion of any tax credit that had been 11 awarded to that film production company that was only available to 12 the film production company by virtue of the film production 13 company's designation as a New Jersey studio partner, except that 14 the tax credits shall not be recaptured from the purchaser or 15 assignee of a tax credit transfer certificate, and all films for which 16 an initial approval has been given, but for which the authority has 17 not approved final documentation, shall be reduced to eliminate the 18 portion of the tax credits only available by virtue of such 19 designation. If a New Jersey studio partner was issued a film tax 20 credit on the basis of a lease or sublease with a New Jersey film-21 lease partner facility before that facility receives a temporary or 22 final certificate of occupancy and the New Jersey studio partner 23 fails to meet the qualifications of a New Jersey studio partner, 24 including, but not limited to, the failure to occupy the required 25 amount of space at New Jersey film-lease production facility for the 26 required time, the authority shall not recapture any tax credits 27 within ¹[two years] one year of the date of the New Jersey studio partner's lease with the New Jersey film-lease production facility, 28 29 which ¹ [period may be extended at the discretion of the authority] 30 the authority shall extend for one additional year if the New Jersey 31 film-lease production facility commences construction, as evidenced 32 by the issuance of a building permit, within one year of the date of the 33 New Jersey studio partner's lease with the New Jersey film-lease 34 production facility¹. A "New Jersey studio partner" may include any 35 other member of a taxpayer's combined group, pursuant to 36 [P.L.2018, c.131] section 23 of P.L.2018, c.48 (C.54:10A-4.11), or 37 an unrelated entity principally engaged in the production of a film 38 or other commercial audiovisual product with whom a designated 39 New Jersey studio partner contracts to perform film production 40 services on its behalf or for its benefit such that the designated New 41 Jersey studio partner: (1) controls such film or product during pre-42 production, production, and post-production; or (2) controls 43 distribution rights for the resulting film or other commercial 44 audiovisual product, provided that the New Jersey studio partner 45 contracted with the unrelated entity prior to qualified film 46 production expenses being incurred. No more than three film 47 production companies may be designated as a New Jersey studio 48 partner.

"Partnership" means an entity classified as a partnership for federal income tax purposes.

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"Post-production costs" means the costs of the phase of production of a film that follows principal photography, in which raw footage is cut and assembled into a finished film with sound synchronization and visual effects.

"Pre-production costs" means the costs of the phase of production of a film that precedes principal photography, in which a detailed schedule and budget for the production is prepared, the script and location is finalized, and contracts with vendors are negotiated.

"Qualified digital media content production expenses" means an expense incurred in New Jersey for the production of digital media "Qualified digital media content production expenses" shall include, but not be limited to: the wages and salaries of individuals employed in the production of digital media content on which the tax imposed by the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. has been paid or is due and any wages and salaries of individuals employed in the production of digital media content that are not subject to tax under the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., due to the provisions of a reciprocity agreement with another state; the costs of computer software and hardware, data processing, visualization technologies, sound synchronization, editing, and the rental of facilities and equipment; and the costs for post-production, including, but not limited to: editing, sound design, visual effects, animation, music composition, color grading, and mastering. Payment made to a loan out company or to an independent contractor shall not be deemed a "qualified digital media content production expense" unless the payment is made in connection with a trade, profession, or occupation carried on in this State or for the rendition of personal services performed in this State and the taxpayer has made the withholding required pursuant to subsection h. of this section. For applications submitted prior to the effective date of P.L.2024, c.33, "qualified digital media content production expenses" shall not include expenses incurred in marketing, promotion, advertising digital media, or other costs not directly related to the production of digital media content. For applications submitted after the effective date of P.L.2024, c.33, "qualified digital media content production expenses" shall not include expenses incurred in marketing, promotion, or advertising digital media; costs incurred for the design, maintenance, and hosting of websites; or other costs not directly related to the production of digital media content. Costs related to the acquisition or licensing of digital media content by the taxpayer for distribution or incorporation into the taxpayer's digital media content, or any costs included in an application submitted to the authority, shall not be deemed "qualified digital media content production expenses."

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1 "Qualified film production expenses" means an expense incurred 2 in New Jersey for the production of a film, including pre-production 3 costs and post-production costs incurred in New Jersey. "Qualified 4 film production expenses" shall include, but not be limited to: the 5 wages and salaries of individuals employed in the production of a 6 film on which the tax imposed by the "New Jersey Gross Income 7 Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. has been paid or is due and any 8 wages and salaries of individuals employed in the production of a 9 film that are not subject to tax under the "New Jersey Gross Income 10 Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., due to the provisions of a 11 reciprocity agreement with another state; and the costs for tangible 12 personal property used, and services performed, directly and 13 exclusively in the production of a film, such as expenditures for 14 film production facilities, props, makeup, wardrobe, 15 processing, camera, sound recording, set construction, lighting, 16 shooting, editing, and meals. ¹For a New Jersey studio partner or 17 New Jersey film-lease production company that enters into a lease to 18 occupy a New Jersey film-lease partner facility for at least three years, 19 "qualified film production expenses" includes the following 20 expenses incurred in the production of the film, which expenses 21 shall be included in a percentage proportional to the percentage of 22 principal photography shoot days in the State: total production 23 insurance premiums paid to insurance companies doing business in 24 New Jersey, which premiums shall exclude payments for errors and 25 omissions insurance; total producer fees; and total rights fees. 26 However, cumulative expenses for production insurance premiums, 27 producer fees, and rights fees shall not exceed seven and one-half 28 percent of "qualified film production expenses" for any New Jersey 29 studio partner or New Jersey film-lease production company. For a 30 New Jersey studio partner or New Jersey film-lease production company ¹that enters into a lease to occupy a New Jersey film-lease 31 partner facility for at least three years¹, "qualified film production 32 expenses" includes: the total script costs of any script written within 33 34 New Jersey; or the product of the total script costs of any script 35 written outside New Jersey and the percentage of the principal 36 photography shoot days in New Jersey relative to the total principal photography shoot days for the film. ¹Notwithstanding the 37 foregoing, for any original application approved by the authority on or 38 after January 1, 2028 for a New Jersey studio partner or New Jersey 39 film-lease production company that enters into a lease to occupy a 40 41 New Jersey film-lease partner facility for at least three years, 42 "qualified film production expenses" shall include the total script 43 costs of any script written within New Jersey; or the product of the 44 total script costs of any script written outside New Jersey and the 45 percentage of the principal photography shoot days in this State 46 relative to the total principal photography shoot days for the film, 47 provided that the taxpayer satisfies two of the following criteria as 48 certified by an independent certified public accountant licensed in

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1 this State and according to such procedures as the authority may 2 establish: the taxpayer establishes a writer's skills development 3 program with a college, including a community college, apprentice 4 program, university, vocational school, or high school in this State; 5 the taxpayer opens a writer's room in this State at a production 6 facility where writing support services are provided at least in part 7 for the film; a writer on the film is a resident of this State for a 8 period including at least one year prior to the commencement of 9 principal photography for the film in this State; the taxpayer hires 10 one or more researchers that are residents of this State to perform 11 research services in this State for the development of a script or 12 scripts for a film; or any alternative criteria as the authority shall 13 provide.1 Payment made to a loan out company or to an 14 independent contractor shall not be deemed a "qualified film 15 production expense" unless the payment is made in connection with 16 a trade, profession, or occupation carried on in this State or for the 17 rendition of personal services performed in this State and the 18 taxpayer has made the withholding required by subsection h. of this 19 section. Payment made to a homeowner, who is otherwise not a 20 vendor authorized to do business in New Jersey, for the use of a 21 personal residence for filming shall not be deemed a "qualified film 22 production expense" unless the taxpayer has made the withholding 23 required by subsection h. of this section. For the purposes of this 24 definition, wages and salaries of individuals employed in the 25 production of a film shall include deferred compensation, including 26 advances on deferred compensation, incurred by a New Jersey 27 studio [partners] partner, provided the New Jersey studio partner 28 files a supplemental report prepared by an independent certified 29 public accountant, pursuant to agreed-upon procedures prescribed 30 by the authority and the director, no later than [two] four years 31 after the date on which the production concludes. "Qualified film 32 production expenses" shall not include: expenses incurred in 33 marketing or advertising a film; expenses for a story, script, or 34 scenario to be used for a film, except that qualified film production 35 expenses may include script costs, including the cost of script 36 purchase, for a New Jersey studio partner or New Jersey film-lease 37 production company; Ifor taxpayers other than New Jersey studio 38 partners and New Jersey film-lease production companies, 1 and 39 payment in excess of \$750,000 to a highly compensated individual 40 for wages or salaries or other compensation for writers, directors, 41 including music directors, producers, and performers, other than 42 background actors with no scripted lines[; and, for New Jersey 43 studio partners and New Jersey film-lease production companies, 44 payment in excess of \$500,000 to a highly compensated individual 45 for wages or salaries or other compensation for writers, directors, 46 including music directors, producers, and performers, other than 47 background actors with no scripted lines], except as follows:

- (1) for a New Jersey studio partner that incurs less than \$25,000,000 in qualified film production expenses in the State, which shall be determined by including the additional amount provided in this paragraph, in excess of amounts paid to highly compensated individuals, an additional amount, not to exceed \$18,000,000, of the wages or salaries or other compensation for writers, directors, including music directors, producers, and performers, other than background actors with no scripted lines, shall constitute qualified film production expenses;
 - (2) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2023, c.97)

- (3) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2023, c.97)
- (4) (a) for a New Jersey studio partner that incurs \$25,000,000 or more in qualified film production expenses in the State, which shall be determined by including the additional amount provided in this paragraph, in excess of amounts paid to highly compensated individuals, an additional amount, not to exceed \$72,000,000, of the wages or salaries or other compensation for writers, directors, including music directors, producers, and performers, other than background actors with no scripted lines, shall constitute qualified film production expenses; and
- (b) for a New Jersey studio partner that incurs \$125,000,000 or more in qualified film production expenses in the State, which shall be determined by including the additional amount provided in this paragraph, for the production of a film that is a feature film, in excess of the amounts paid to highly compensated individuals, amounts paid for script costs, amounts paid or incurred for deferred compensation, including advances on deferred compensation, an additional amount, not to exceed \$72,000,000, of the wages and salaries or other compensation for writers, directors, including music directors, producers, and performers, other than background actors with no scripted lines, shall constitute qualified film production expenses;
- (5) for a New Jersey film-lease production company that incurs less than \$50,000,000 in qualified film production expenses in the State, which shall be determined by including the additional amount provided in this paragraph, in excess of amounts paid to highly compensated individuals, an additional amount, not to exceed \$15,000,000, of the wages or salaries or other compensation for writers, directors, including music directors, producers, and performers, other than background actors with no scripted lines, shall constitute qualified film production expenses; and
- (6) for a New Jersey film-lease production company that incurs \$50,000,000 or more in qualified film production expenses in the State, which shall be determined by including the additional amount provided in this paragraph, in excess of amounts paid to highly compensated individuals, an additional amount, not to exceed \$60,000,000, of the wages or salaries or other compensation for writers, directors, including music directors, producers, and

performers, other than background actors with no scripted lines,
 shall constitute qualified film production expenses.

"Qualified post-production company" means a corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or other entity engaged in post-production, including visual effects activities on a film or films described in this section, including, but not limited to, a film or films that do not satisfy the requirements of subparagraph (a) of paragraph (1) of subsection a. of this section.

¹["Television series that relocated to New Jersey" means a scripted television series of at least six episodes, with an average production budget of \$2,500,000 per episode, and for which all prior seasons of the series were filmed outside New Jersey.]¹

"Total digital media content production expenses" means costs for services performed and property used or consumed in the production of digital media content.

"Total film production expenses" means costs for services performed and tangible personal property used or consumed in the production of a film.

(cf: P.L.2024, c.33, s.3)

- 3. Section 4 of P.L.2018, c.56 is amended to read as follows:
- 4. a. A taxpayer, upon approval of an application to the authority and the director, ¹and subject to the provisions of section 6 of P.L., c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill), ¹ shall be allowed a credit against the tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5) or under the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq., in an amount equal to [two] four ¹[and one-half] percent of the qualified film production expenses or four percent of the digital media content production expenses of the taxpayer during a privilege period or taxable year commencing on or after July 1, 2018 but before July 1, [2039] 2049, provided that:
 - (1) the application is accompanied by a **[**diversity**]** plan outlining specific goals, which may include advertising and recruitment actions, for hiring **[**minority persons and women**]** residents of an economically disadvantaged area in the State, a distressed municipality as that term is defined in section 55 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-323), or land owned by the federal government on or before December 31, 2005;
 - (2) the director and the authority have approved the plan as meeting the requirements established by the director and the authority; and
 - (3) the director and the authority have verified that the applicant has met or made good faith efforts in achieving those goals.
 - b. The amount of a tax credit allowed pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall increase to four percent of the qualified film production expenses of the taxpayer if the diversity plan, in addition to meeting the requirements of subsection a. of this section, outlines

- 1 specific goals that include hiring persons as performers in the film
- 2 who are: (i) women or members of a minority group; (ii) residents
- 3 of New Jersey for at least 12 months preceding the beginning of
- 4 filming or recording; and (iii) members of a bona fide labor union
- 5 representing film and television performers. I (Deleted by
- amendment, P.L., c.) (pending before the Legislature as this 6 7 bill)
- 8 The director and the authority shall adopt any rules 9 necessary to implement this provision.
 - d. The application shall indicate whether the applicant intends

to participate in training, education, and recruitment programs that

- 12 are organized in cooperation with State colleges and universities,
- 13 labor organizations, and the motion picture industry and are
- 14 designed to promote and encourage the training and hiring of New
- 15 Jersey residents [who represent the diversity of the State
- 16 population of an economically disadvantaged area in the State, a
- 17 distressed municipality as that term is defined in section 55 of
- 18 P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-323), or land owned by the federal
- 19 government on or before December 31, 2005.
- 20 (cf: P.L.2024, c.33, s.4)

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- 4. Section 89 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.52:18A-263) is amended to
- 23 read as follows: 24 89. a. The Director of the Division of Taxation in the
- 25 Department of the Treasury may purchase unused tax credits
- 26 awarded under a program listed in paragraphs (1) through (5) or
- 27 paragraphs (7) through (12) of subsection b. of this section, and
- 28 shall purchase unused tax credits awarded under a program listed in
- 29 paragraphs (6), (13), and (14) of subsection b. of this section, 30 including tax credit transfer certificates issued by the director in
- 31 lieu of a tax credit allowed under such programs. The director shall
- 32 not pay consideration in excess of 75 percent of the credit amount
- 33 to be purchased, except for a credit awarded under:
- 34 (1) the "Emerge Program Act," sections 68 through 81 of
- 35 P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-336 et al.), which shall be subject to the
- provisions of paragraph (4) of subsection d. of section 77 of 36
- 37 P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-345);
- 38 (2) the "New Jersey Aspire Program Act," sections 54 through
- 39 67of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-322 through C.34:1B-335), as
- amended and supplemented, for which the director shall pay an 40
- amount equal to 85 percent of the credit amount, provided that the 42 issuance date of the tax credit certificate or tax credit transfer
- 43 certificate to the developer or the holder of such certificate occurred
- 44 at least one year prior to the date of application to the director, and
- further provided that, if the application to the director is submitted 46 after the sixth year of the eligibility period, the amount in excess of
- 47 the reasonable and appropriate rate of return on investment that the

developer is required to pay pursuant to subsection c. of section 60 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-328) shall increase to 50 percent; [or]

(3) the "Cultural Arts Incentives Program Act," P.L.2023, c.197 (C.34:1B-383 et al.), for which the director shall pay an amount equal to 85 percent of the credit amount, provided that the issuance date of the tax credit certificate or tax credit transfer certificate to the developer or the holder of such certificate occurred at least one year prior to the date of application to the director; or

9 (4) the "Garden State Film and Digital Media Jobs Act," 10 P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b et al.), for which the director shall 11 pay an amount equal to 95 percent of the credit amount ¹ for any 12 original application approved by the authority on or after January 1, 13 2026¹, provided that the issuance date of the tax credit certificate or tax credit transfer certificate to the taxpayer, which taxpayer is a 14 New Jersey studio partner ¹[or New Jersey film-lease production 15 company that enters into lease of at least three years to occupy a 16 film-lease partner facility, 1 or the holder of such certificate 17 ¹originally issued to a New Jersey studio partner, ¹ occurred at least 18 19 one year prior to the date of application to the director and provided 20 that the director ¹shall purchase such certificates valued at no more 21 than a cumulative amount of \$80,000,000 in State fiscal year 2026, 22 \$160,000,000 in State fiscal year 2027, \$240,000,000 in State fiscal 23 year 2028, and \$200,000,000 in each State fiscal year thereafter, 24 subject to the conditions in this paragraph. If an application to the 25 <u>director for the purchase of tax credits otherwise qualifies pursuant</u> 26 to this paragraph, but the value of tax credits for which the director 27 receives applications exceeds the maximum cumulative amount for 28 the State fiscal year in which the application is made, the director 29 shall purchase the remaining tax credits in the State fiscal year next 30 following the State fiscal year in which the application is made, 31 provided that the director shall not purchase a cumulative amount 32 above the maximum cumulative amount for the respective State 33 fiscal year. No payments shall be made pursuant to this paragraph unless the following conditions are met: full funding is provided 34 35 for the fiscal year to satisfy the requirement in Article VIII, Section 36 IV, paragraph 1 of the New Jersey Constitution that the Legislature 37 provide for the maintenance and support of a thorough and efficient 38 system of free public schools for the instruction of children in the 39 State between the ages of five and 18 years; full payment of the 40 contributions required by law for the fiscal year is made to the 41 State-administered retirement systems; and the annual 42 appropriations act for the State fiscal year maintains a budgetary 43 surplus of no less than 12 percent of total appropriations from the 44 General Fund and the Property Tax Relief Fund¹.

b. The Director of the Division of Taxation in the Department of the Treasury may or shall, subject to the provisions of subsection a. of this section, purchase tax credits awarded under the following:

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- 1 (1) the "Historic Property Reinvestment Act," sections 2 through 8 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-270 through 34:1B-276);
- 3 (2) the "Brownfield Redevelopment Incentive Program Act," 4 sections 9 through 19 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-277 through 5 34:1B-287);
- 6 (3) the "New Jersey Innovation Evergreen Act," sections 20 through 34 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-288 through 34:1B-302);
- 8 (4) the "Food Desert Relief Act," sections 35 through 42 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-303 through 34:1B-310);
- 10 (5) the "New Jersey Community-Anchored Development Act," 11 sections 43 through 53 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-311 through 12 34:1B-321);
- 13 (6) the "New Jersey Aspire Program Act," sections 54 through 14 67 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-322 through 34:1B-335);
- 15 (7) the "Emerge Program Act," sections 68 through 81 of 16 P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-336 et al.);
- 17 (8) the Grow New Jersey Assistance Program established 18 pursuant to section 3 of P.L.2011, c.149 (C.34:1B-244);
 - (9) section 6 of P.L.2010, c.57 (C.34:1B-209.4);
- 20 (10) the State Economic Redevelopment and Growth Grant 21 program established pursuant to section 5 of P.L.2009, c.90 22 (C.52:27D-489e);
- 23 (11) section 1 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b);
- 24 (12) section 2 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54A:4-12b); [and]
- 25 (13) the "Cultural Arts Incentives Program Act," P.L.2023, c.197 (C.34:1B-383 et al.); and
- 27 (14) the "Garden State Film and Digital Media Jobs Act,"
 28 P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b et al.).
- 29 (cf: P.L.2025, c.2, s.9)

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- 5. (New section) ¹[a.] A taxpayer that is a New Jersey studio partner or New Jersey film-lease production company, upon approval of an application submitted pursuant to P.L.2018, c.56
- 34 (C.54:10A-5.39b et al.) by the authority and the director, ¹and
- subject to the provisions of section 6 of P.L., c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill). shall be allowed an additional tax credit
- the Legislature as this bill), shall be allowed an additional tax credit against the tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162
- 38 (C.54:10A-5) or the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act,"
- 39 N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. in an amount equal to four ¹[and one-half]¹
- 40 percent of the qualified film production expenses or qualified
- 41 digital media content production expenses of the taxpayer incurred
- 42 during a tax period commencing on or after July 1, 2025 but before
- 43 July 1, 2049, provided that:
- 44 ¹[(1)] <u>a.</u>¹ the application is accompanied by a plan outlining 45 specific goals to promote or invest in New Jersey, which plan shall 46 include at least ¹[two] <u>four</u> of the following criteria:
- 47 [(a)] (1) the creation of a video at least three minutes in length 48 of publicly accessible locations in New Jersey used for the film,

with commentary on how and why each location was chosen, published on the Internet website promoting the film or in another form and manner approved by the authority. To receive credit for this promotional criterion, a taxpayer shall provide a list of locations in New Jersey used for the film and relevant footage for use by the authority for promotional purposes;

¹[(b)] (2)¹ the creation of five public social media posts including commentary on positive experiences at publicly accessible New Jersey locations or positive experiences filming in the State. The social media posts shall originate from an official account of the taxpayer ¹[or], ¹ the film, ¹ a leading actor or actress in the film, ¹ or as otherwise permitted by the authority. To receive credit for this promotional criterion, the taxpayer shall provide the Internet website on which the post is publicly visible for use by the authority for promotional purposes;

¹**[**(c)**]** (3)¹ the placement of a New Jersey promotional logo provided by the authority for a two-second exposure, not displayed over content or on a shared card, and displayed before the belowthe-line crew crawl and after contractual credit placement obligations;

 ${}^{1}\mathbf{I}(d)\mathbf{I}(d)^{1}$ the film is set, at least in part, in New Jersey, and the State is referenced in the film;

¹**[**(e)**]** (5)¹ support for a workforce development program established by ¹the taxpayer with ¹ a college, including a community college, an apprentice program, or a university in this State, which program includes direct training or employment opportunities on the film for residents of this State;

¹**[**(f)**]** (6)¹ a film industry recruiting program established by the taxpayer providing paid internships or entry level employment opportunities in film crew positions for State residents of an economically disadvantaged area in the State, a distressed municipality as that term is defined in section 55 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-323), or land owned by the federal government on or before December 31, 2005;

¹**[**(g)**]** (7)¹ the taxpayer engages at least five vendors authorized to do business in New Jersey that employ at least one full-time employee at a physical location in an economically disadvantaged area in the State, a distressed municipality as that term is defined in section 55 of P.L.2020, c.156 (C.34:1B-323), or on land owned by the federal government on or before December 31, 2005; and

¹**[**(h)**]** (8)¹ any alternative criteria as the authority shall provide pursuant to ¹**[**subsection c. of this section**]** rules and regulations adopted by the authority¹; and

 ${}^{1}\mathbf{I}(2)\mathbf{]}$ <u>b.</u> the director and the authority have verified that the taxpayer met the goals outlined in the plan submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection.

¹[b. Unless the taxpayer a film that is eligible for an additional tax credit for a television series that relocated to New Jersey, pursuant to paragraph (3) of subsection a. of section 1 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b) or paragraph (3) of subsection a. of section 2 of P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54A:4-12b), in addition to the credit provided pursuant to subsection a. of this section, a taxpayer that is a New Jersey studio partner or New Jersey film-lease production company, upon approval of an application submitted pursuant to P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b et al.) by the authority and the director, shall be allowed an additional tax credit against the tax imposed pursuant to section 5 of P.L.1945, c.162 (C.54:10A-5) or the "New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act," N.J.S.54A:1-1 et seq. in an amount equal to four and one-half percent of the qualified film production expenses or qualified digital media content production expenses of the taxpayer incurred during a tax period commencing on or after July 1, 2025 but before July 1, 2049, provided that the taxpayer's plan outlining specific goals to promote or invest in New Jersey includes a total of at least four of the criteria in paragraph (1) of subsection a. of this section.

c. The authority shall adopt, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this section, including, at a minimum, alternative promotional criteria, approved social media platforms, and requirements for a vendor's physical location. **1**¹

¹6. (New section) Notwithstanding any provision of P.L., c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill) or any law, rule, or regulation to the contrary:

a. any additional tax credits allowed pursuant to the amendatory and supplemental provisions of P.L., c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall not exceed an aggregate additional amount totaling five percent of the qualified film production expenses or qualified digital media content production expenses of the taxpayer incurred during a tax period commencing on or after July 1, 2025 but before July 1, 2049, provided that this limitation shall only apply to the additional tax credit allowed for: hiring residents from certain areas in the State pursuant to section 4 of P.L.2018, c.56, as amended by section 3 of P.L., c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill); and the promotion of this State pursuant to section 5 of P.L., c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill); and

b. the total amount of tax credits allowed under "Garden State Film and Digital Media Jobs Act," P.L.2018, c.56 (C.54:10A-5.39b et al.), as amended and supplemented, shall not exceed an aggregate additional amount totaling 45 percent of the qualified film production expenses or qualified digital media content production expenses of the taxpayer incurred during a tax period commencing on or after July 1, 2025 but before July 1, 2049.¹

1	¹ 7. (New section) Notwithstanding the provisions of the
2	"Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.)
3	to the contrary, the New Jersey Economic Development Authority may
4	adopt, immediately, upon filing with the Office of Administrative
5	Law, such rules and regulations as the authority deems necessary to
6	implement the provisions of P.L., c. (pending before the
7	Legislature as this bill), which regulations shall be effective for a
8	period not to exceed 180 days from the date of the filing. Thereafter,
9	the agency shall amend, adopt, or readopt the regulations in
10	accordance with the requirements of the "Administrative Procedure
11	Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.). ¹
12	
13	¹ [6.] 8. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply

[6.] $8.^{1}$ This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to applications submitted after the effective date of this act. 14