

# VISIT BALTIMORE

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BALTIMORE, MD 21202

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## **HB432**

February 4, 2022

TO: Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee  
FROM: Al Hutchinson, President & CEO, Visit Baltimore  
RE: HB432  
POSITION: SUPPORT

Dear Chair Atterbeary and Members of the House Ways and Means Committee,

Visit Baltimore Supports HB432, which will increase the annual amount of tax credits available for film Production in Maryland.

The tourism industry in Baltimore and the world over has been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in job losses, reduced wages and salaries and budget cuts that will take years to recover from. As the destination marketing organization for Baltimore City, Visit Baltimore is charged with leading the recovery effort for local hotels, restaurants, and arts and entertainment venues.

The film industry is a lucrative industry hiring local skilled talent and providing workforce and economic development opportunities to the local economy. Production teams have extended bookings at our local hotels, along with using local restaurants and catering partners for craft services meals. Additionally, the workforce coming into the city has the potential to turn into loyal ambassadors and future transplants/repeat visitors. We respectfully request a favorable report on House Bill 432.