REFERENCE TITLE: motion picture tax credit; accountability

State of Arizona House of Representatives Forty-eighth Legislature First Regular Session 2007

## **HB 2322**

Introduced by Representatives Reagan, Kirkpatrick, Konopnicki, Senators Allen, Leff, Waring: Representatives Cajero Bedford, McComish, Senator Blendu

## AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 41-1517, 42-2003, 43-1075 AND 43-1163, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO MOTION PICTURE PRODUCTION TAXATION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

- j -

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona: Section 1. Section 41-1517, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

## 41-1517. <u>Motion picture production tax incentives: duties:</u> definitions

- A. From and after December 31, 2005 through December 31, 2010, the department of commerce shall qualify motion picture production companies that produce one or more motion pictures in this state for motion picture production tax incentives, subject to the following requirements and conditions:
- 1. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION F OF THIS SECTION, a motion picture production company must incur production costs in this state of at least two hundred fifty thousand dollars in producing one or more motion pictures during each twelve month period for which it is qualified for the tax incentives.
- 2. For the purpose of this section, production costs are limited to and subject to the following conditions:
- (a) Salaries and other compensation for talent, management and labor paid to residents of this state, as defined by section 43-104.
  - (b) A story and scenario to be used for a motion picture.
- (c) Set construction and operations, wardrobe, props, accessories and related services in this state. Expenses paid for construction contracts are limited to contractors who are licensed under title 32, chapter 10.
- (d) Photography, sound synchronization, lighting and related costs incurred in this state.
  - (e) Editing and related services performed in this state.
  - (f) Rental of facilities and equipment in this state.
  - (g) Catered food, drink and condiment purchased in this state.
- (h) Other direct in-state costs of producing the motion picture, pursuant to rules adopted by the department of revenue that follow generally accepted accounting standards for the motion picture industry.
- (i) Payments for penalties and fines do not qualify as production costs.
- 3. A motion picture production company or its authorized payroll service company must employ residents of this state in its production activities as follows:
- (a) In 2006, at least twenty-five per cent of full-time employees working in this state must be residents of this state.
- (b) In 2007, at least thirty-five per cent of full-time employees working in this state must be residents of this state.
- (c) In 2008 and every subsequent taxable year, at least fifty per cent of full-time employees working in this state must be residents of this state.
- 4. A motion picture production company must submit a completed application pursuant to subsection B or  $\frac{1}{2}$  J of this section. An application is complete on receipt of all requested information.

- 1 -

- 5. A motion picture production company must include in the credits for each motion picture, other than a commercial advertisement, an acknowledgement that the production was filmed in this state ARIZONA.
- B. A motion picture production company initially applying for qualification under this section must report the following to the department of commerce on a form and in a manner prescribed by the department, with the cooperation of the department of revenue:
- 1. The name, address, telephone number and web site of the motion picture production company.
- 2. The name and address of an individual who will maintain records of expenditures in this state.
- 3. The projected first preproduction date and last production date in this state.
- 4. The production office address and office telephone number in this state.
  - 5. The estimated total budget of the production.
  - 6. The estimated total expenditures in this state.
- 7. The estimated total percentage of the production taking place in this state.
- 8. The estimated level of employment of residents of this state in the cast and crew.
- 9. A script, including a synopsis, the proposed director and a preliminary list of the cast and producer, EXCEPT THAT, WITH RESPECT TO A TELEVISION PILOT OR SERIES, A COMMERCIAL ADVERTISEMENT OR A MUSIC VIDEO, NO SCRIPT IS REQUIRED.
  - 10. A signed affirmation from the applicant that:
- (a) The motion picture production company agrees to furnish records of expenditures in this state to the department of revenue on request.
- (b) Any items purchased with a certification issued under section 42-5009, subsection H are intended for use by the applicant directly in motion picture production.
- C. The department of commerce shall review all applications within thirty days after submission pursuant to subsection B or  $\frac{1}{1}$  J of this section to determine whether the motion picture production company satisfies all of the criteria provided in subsection A of this section and shall establish the process by which the department qualifies and preapproves a company for motion picture production tax incentives. This process shall preapprove a company for motion picture production tax incentives based on priority placement established by the date that such motion picture production company filed its initial application for qualification with the department.
- D. If, WITHIN FOUR MONTHS AFTER THE DEPARTMENT PREAPPROVES a company, THE COMPANY fails to begin production, within four months after the department preapproves the company or fails to provide notice pursuant to this subsection OR FAILS TO SPEND AT LEAST TWENTY PER CENT OF THE ESTIMATED TOTAL BUDGET OF THE PRODUCTION, the preapproval lapses, the application is

- 2 -

2

3

4

6 7

8 9

10 11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

void and the amount of the preapproved incentives does not apply to AGAINST the dollar limit prescribed by subsection E of this section for that year, UNLESS THE COMPANY HAS OBTAINED A COMPLETION BOND FOR THE PRODUCTION OF THE MOTION PICTURE FOR WHICH THE COMPANY WAS PREAPPROVED. THE PREAPPROVED AMOUNT APPLIES AGAINST THE DOLLAR LIMIT PRESCRIBED BY SUBSECTION E OF THIS SECTION FOR THE YEAR IN WHICH THE APPLICATION WAS SUBMITTED REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE INITIAL PREAPPROVAL OR REALLOCATION PERIOD EXTENDS INTO THE FOLLOWING YEAR. BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF THE INITIAL PREAPPROVAL OR REALLOCATION PERIOD, A COMPANY MAY VOLUNTARILY RELINQUISH UNUSED CREDIT AMOUNTS FOR REALLOCATION BY THE DEPARTMENT TO OTHER COMPANIES THAT APPLIED IN THE ORIGINAL CREDIT YEAR. AND THE AMOUNT OF THOSE REALLOCATED CREDITS CONTINUE TO APPLY AGAINST THE DOLLAR LIMIT OF THE ORIGINAL CREDIT YEAR. The department of commerce may conduct a site visit to verify that production has begun. Within four months after the department preapproves the company's initial application, the company must submit notice to the department of commerce that production has begun and provide at least one of the following:

- 1. A copy of a contract, loan out agreement or deal memo with a cameraman and crew.
  - 2. A copy of the crew call sheet for the first day of production.
- 3. Evidence that residents of this state have been paid a total of at least five thousand dollars for work on the preapproved motion picture.
- 4. A copy of a contract or agreement directly attributable to the preapproved motion picture.
- E. SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION F OF THIS SECTION, the department shall not preapprove income tax credits exceeding a total of:
  - 1. Thirty million dollars in FOR 2006.
  - 2. Forty million dollars <del>in</del> FOR 2007.
  - 3. Fifty million dollars in FOR 2008.
  - 4. Sixty million dollars in FOR 2009.
- 5. From and after December 31, 2009, seventy million dollars  $\frac{1}{10}$  FOR a single year.
  - 6. Five million dollars for an individual motion picture application.
- F. FIVE PER CENT OF THE MAXIMUM DOLLAR AMOUNT OF INCOME TAX CREDITS PRESCRIBED FOR ANY YEAR BY SUBSECTION E OF THIS SECTION IS RESERVED FOR USE WITH RESPECT TO COMMERCIAL ADVERTISEMENT AND MUSIC VIDEO PRODUCTIONS. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE SHALL PRESCRIBE DISTINCT RULES CONSISTENT WITH THIS SUBSECTION FOR QUALIFYING COMMERCIAL ADVERTISEMENT AND MUSIC VIDEO PRODUCTIONS FOR TAX INCENTIVES AND CERTIFYING THE AMOUNT OF ELIGIBLE PRODUCTION COSTS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE. A COMMERCIAL ADVERTISEMENT OR MUSIC VIDEO PRODUCTION COMPANY MAY AGGREGATE ITS ANNUAL PRODUCTION COSTS OF ALL COMMERCIAL AND MUSIC VIDEO PRODUCTIONS IN THIS STATE DURING THE YEAR IN ORDER TO MEET THE THRESHOLD REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPH 1 OF THIS SECTION.

- 3 -

- F. G. After October 31 of each year, if the department has preapproved the maximum calendar year tax credit amount pursuant to subsection E of this section, the department may accept initial applications for the next calendar year. The preapproval of any application pursuant to this subsection shall not be effective prior to the first business day of the following calendar year.
- G. H. The department of commerce shall deny an application submitted pursuant to subsection B or F J of this section if it determines that:
- 1. The motion picture production company does not meet all of the established criteria provided in subsection A of this section.
- 2. The production would constitute an obscene motion picture film or obscene pictorial publication under title 12, chapter 7, article 1.1.
- 3. The production depicts sexual activity as defined in title 13, chapter 35.
- 4. The production would constitute sexual exploitation of a minor or commercial sexual exploitation of a minor under title 13, chapter 35.1.
- H. I. On a determination by the department of commerce that a motion picture production company qualifies for motion picture production tax incentives, the department shall issue the company a written letter of qualification and transmit a copy of the letter to the department of revenue. A letter of qualification is effective for twelve consecutive months as stated in the letter.
- I. J. A motion picture production company that applies for requalification must continue to meet all of the eligibility criteria provided under subsection A of this section and must provide the department of commerce with updated information on the location, ownership and operations of the business. For purposes of efficiency and reducing duplicative or redundant reporting duties, the department may establish a streamlined process for requalification.
- J. K. Upon completion of ALL OR PART OF the motion picture production, a motion picture production company that qualifies for the motion picture tax incentives shall certify to the department the total amount of eligible production costs associated with the project incurred from and after December 31, 2005. From and after June 30, 2006, the department shall provide approval to a motion picture production company that it has met the eligibility requirements of this section and shall notify the department of revenue that a motion picture production company may claim the tax credits pursuant to sections 43-1075 and 43-1163. If the eligible production costs actually incurred are less than the amount preapproved for income tax credits, the preapproved amount not incurred lapses and does not apply to AGAINST the dollar limit prescribed by subsection E of this section for that year.
- L. IF A PREAPPROVED MOTION PICTURE PRODUCTION COMPANY FAILS TO UNDERTAKE PRODUCTION, AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION D OF THIS SECTION, AND ALSO FAILS TO VOLUNTARILY RELINQUISH THE UNUSED CREDIT AMOUNTS FOR REALLOCATION BY

- 4 -

THE DEPARTMENT AS PROVIDED BY SUBSECTION D OF THIS SECTION WITHIN THE FOUR-MONTH PERIOD, THE COMPANY AND ALL OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND OWNERS OF THE COMPANY, AND ALL PRODUCERS LISTED IN THE APPLICATION FOR PREAPPROVAL, ARE DISQUALIFIED FROM RECEIVING, OR PARTICIPATING IN ANY MOTION PICTURE PRODUCTION COMPANY THAT APPLIES FOR, OR RECEIVES, TAX INCENTIVES PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION FOR THREE YEARS AFTER THE ORIGINAL APPLICATION.

- $\kappa$ . M. The department of commerce, with the cooperation of the department of revenue, shall adopt rules and publish and prescribe forms and procedures as necessary to effectuate the purposes of this section.
- L. N. Any information gathered from motion picture production companies for the purposes of this section shall be considered confidential taxpayer information and shall be disclosed only as provided in section 42-2003, subsection B, paragraph 12.
  - M. O. The department of commerce shall:
- 1. Keep annual records of the information provided on applications for motion picture production tax incentives. These records shall reflect a percentage comparison of the annual amount of monies exempted or credited to qualifying motion picture production companies to the estimated amount of monies spent on in-state production costs by motion picture production companies.
- 2. Maintain annual data on growth in Arizona-based motion picture industry companies and motion picture industry employment and wages.
- 3. Not later than December 1 of each year, prepare and publish a report summarizing the information collected pursuant to this subsection. The department shall make copies of the annual report available to the public on request.
  - N. P. For the purposes of this section:
- 1. "COMMERCIAL ADVERTISEMENT" MEANS AN ADVERTISING MESSAGE DESIGNED FOR DELIVERY THROUGH A VISUAL MEDIUM TO ATTRACT THE ATTENTION OF CONSUMERS OR INFLUENCE CONSUMERS' FEELINGS TOWARD A PARTICULAR PRODUCT, SERVICE OR CAUSE.
- 1. 2. "Motion picture" means a single medium or multimedia program, including a commercial advertising message, that:
- (a) Is created by production activities conducted in whole or in part in this state.
  - (b) Can be viewed or reproduced.
- (c) Is intended for commercial distribution or licensing in the delivery medium used.
- 2. 3. "Motion picture production company" OR "PRODUCTION COMPANY" means any person primarily engaged in the business of producing motion pictures, INCLUDING COMMERCIAL ADVERTISEMENTS AND MUSIC VIDEOS, and that has a physical business office and bank account in this state.
- $\frac{3.}{4.}$  "Motion picture production tax incentives" means the tax deductions for transaction privilege and use taxes listed in section 42-5009, subsection H and the credit against income taxes provided under section 43-1075 or 43-1163.

- 5 -

- Sec. 2. Section 42-2003, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 42-2003. Authorized disclosure of confidential information
- A. Confidential information relating to:
- 1. A taxpayer may be disclosed to the taxpayer, its successor in interest or a designee of the taxpayer who is authorized in writing by the taxpayer. A principal corporate officer of a parent corporation may execute a written authorization for a controlled subsidiary.
- 2. A corporate taxpayer may be disclosed to any principal officer, any person designated by a principal officer or any person designated in a resolution by the corporate board of directors or other similar governing body.
- 3. A partnership may be disclosed to any partner of the partnership. This exception does not include disclosure of confidential information of a particular partner unless otherwise authorized.
- 4. An estate may be disclosed to the personal representative of the estate and to any heir, next of kin or beneficiary under the will of the decedent if the department finds that the heir, next of kin or beneficiary has a material interest which will be affected by the confidential information.
- 5. A trust may be disclosed to the trustee or trustees, jointly or separately, and to the grantor or any beneficiary of the trust if the department finds that the grantor or beneficiary has a material interest which will be affected by the confidential information.
- 6. Any taxpayer may be disclosed if the taxpayer has waived any rights to confidentiality either in writing or on the record in any administrative or judicial proceeding.
- 7. The name and taxpayer identification numbers of persons issued direct payment permits may be publicly disclosed.
  - B. Confidential information may be disclosed to:
- 1. Any employee of the department whose official duties involve tax administration.
- 2. The office of the attorney general solely for its use in preparation for, or in an investigation which may result in, any proceeding involving tax administration before the department or any other agency or board of this state, or before any grand jury or any state or federal court.
- 3. The department of liquor licenses and control for its use in determining whether a spirituous liquor licensee has paid all transaction privilege taxes and affiliated excise taxes incurred as a result of the sale of spirituous liquor, as defined in section 4-101, at the licensed establishment and imposed on the licensed establishments by this state and its political subdivisions.
- 4. Other state tax officials whose official duties require the disclosure for proper tax administration purposes if the information is sought in connection with an investigation or any other proceeding conducted by the official. Any disclosure is limited to information of a taxpayer who

- 6 -

is being investigated or who is a party to a proceeding conducted by the official.

- 5. The following agencies, officials and organizations, if they grant substantially similar privileges to the department for the type of information being sought, pursuant to statute and a written agreement between the department and the foreign country, agency, state, Indian tribe or organization:
- (a) The United States internal revenue service, alcohol and tobacco tax and trade bureau of the United States treasury, United States bureau of alcohol, tobacco, firearms and explosives of the United States department of justice, United States drug enforcement agency and federal bureau of investigation.
  - (b) A state tax official of another state.
- (c) An organization of states, federation of tax administrators or multistate tax commission that operates an information exchange for tax administration purposes.
- (d) An agency, official or organization of a foreign country with responsibilities that are comparable to those listed in subdivision (a), (b) or (c) of this paragraph.
- (e) An agency, official or organization of an Indian tribal government with responsibilities comparable to the responsibilities of the agencies, officials or organizations identified in subdivision (a), (b) or (c) of this paragraph.
- 6. The auditor general, in connection with any audit of the department subject to the restrictions in section 42-2002, subsection D.
- 7. Any person to the extent necessary for effective tax administration in connection with:
- (a) The processing, storage, transmission, destruction and reproduction of the information.
- (b) The programming, maintenance, repair, testing and procurement of equipment for purposes of tax administration.
- 8. The office of administrative hearings relating to taxes administered by the department pursuant to section 42-1101, but the department shall not disclose any confidential information:
  - (a) Regarding income tax, withholding tax or estate tax.
- (b) On any tax issue relating to information associated with the reporting of income tax, withholding tax or estate tax.
- 9. The United States treasury inspector general for tax administration for the purpose of reporting a violation of internal revenue code section 7213A (26 United States Code section 7213A), unauthorized inspection of returns or return information.
- 10. The financial management service of the United States treasury department for use in the treasury offset program.

- 7 -

- 11. The United States treasury department or its authorized agent for use in the state income tax levy program and in the electronic federal tax payment system.
  - 12. The department of commerce for its use in both:
- (a) Qualifying motion picture production companies for the tax incentives provided for motion picture production under chapter 5 of this title and sections 43-1075 and 43-1163.
- (b) Fulfilling its annual reporting responsibility pursuant to section 41-1517, subsection -0.
- C. Confidential information may be disclosed in any state or federal judicial or administrative proceeding pertaining to tax administration pursuant to the following conditions:
  - 1. One or more of the following circumstances must apply:
  - (a) The taxpayer is a party to the proceeding.
- (b) The proceeding arose out of, or in connection with, determining the taxpayer's civil or criminal liability, or the collection of the taxpayer's civil liability, with respect to any tax imposed under this title or title 43.
- (c) The treatment of an item reflected on the taxpayer's return is directly related to the resolution of an issue in the proceeding.
- (d) Return information directly relates to a transactional relationship between a person who is a party to the proceeding and the taxpayer and directly affects the resolution of an issue in the proceeding.
- 2. Confidential information may not be disclosed under this subsection if the disclosure is prohibited by section 42-2002, subsection C or D.
- D. Identity information may be disclosed for purposes of notifying persons entitled to tax refunds if the department is unable to locate the persons after reasonable effort.
- E. The department, upon the request of any person, shall provide the names and addresses of bingo licensees as defined in section 5-401, verify whether or not a person has a privilege license and number, a distributor's license and number or a withholding license and number or disclose the information to be posted on the department's web site or otherwise publicly accessible pursuant to sections SECTION 42-1124, subsection F and SECTION 42-3201, subsection A.
- F. A department employee, in connection with the official duties relating to any audit, collection activity or civil or criminal investigation, may disclose return information to the extent that disclosure is necessary to obtain information which is not otherwise reasonably available. These official duties include the correct determination of and liability for tax, the amount to be collected or the enforcement of other state tax revenue laws.
- G. If an organization is exempt from this state's income tax as provided in section 43-1201 for any taxable year, the name and address of the organization and the application filed by the organization upon which the

- 8 -

department made its determination for exemption together with any papers submitted in support of the application and any letter or document issued by the department concerning the application are open to public inspection.

- H. Confidential information relating to transaction privilege tax, use tax, severance tax, jet fuel excise and use tax and rental occupancy tax may be disclosed to any county, city or town tax official if the information relates to a taxpayer who is or may be taxable by the county, city or town. Any taxpayer information released by the department to the county, city or town:
  - 1. May only be used for internal purposes.
- 2. May not be disclosed to the public in any manner that does not comply with confidentiality standards established by the department. The county, city or town shall agree in writing with the department that any release of confidential information that violates the confidentiality standards adopted by the department will result in the immediate suspension of any rights of the county, city or town to receive taxpayer information under this subsection.
- I. The department may disclose statistical information gathered from confidential information if it does not disclose confidential information attributable to any one taxpayer. In order to comply with the requirements of section 42-5029, subsection A, paragraph 3, the department may disclose to the state treasurer statistical information gathered from confidential information, even if it discloses confidential information attributable to a taxpayer.
- J. The department may disclose the aggregate amounts of any tax credit, tax deduction or tax exemption enacted after January 1, 1994. Information subject to disclosure under this subsection shall not be disclosed if a taxpayer demonstrates to the department that such information would give an unfair advantage to competitors.
- K. Except as provided in section 42-2002, subsection C, confidential information, described in section 42-2001, paragraph 2, subdivision (a), item (iii), may be disclosed to law enforcement agencies for law enforcement purposes.
- L. The department may provide transaction privilege tax license information to property tax officials in a county for the purpose of identification and verification of the tax status of commercial property.
- M. The department may provide transaction privilege tax, luxury tax, use tax, property tax and severance tax information to the ombudsman-citizens aide pursuant to title 41, chapter 8, article 5.
- N. Except as provided in section 42-2002, subsection D, a court may order the department to disclose confidential information pertaining to a party to an action. An order shall be made only upon a showing of good cause and that the party seeking the information has made demand upon the taxpayer for the information.

- 9 -

- O. This section does not prohibit the disclosure by the department of any information or documents submitted to the department by a bingo licensee. Before disclosing the information the department shall obtain the name and address of the person requesting the information.
- P. If the department is required or permitted to disclose confidential information, it may charge the person or agency requesting the information for the reasonable cost of its services.
- Q. Except as provided in section 42-2002, subsection D, the department of revenue shall release confidential information as requested by the department of economic security pursuant to section 42-1122 or 46-291. Information disclosed under this subsection is limited to the same type of information that the United States internal revenue service is authorized to disclose under section 6103(1)(6) of the internal revenue code.
- R. Except as provided in section 42-2002, subsection D, the department of revenue shall release confidential information as requested by the courts and clerks of the court pursuant to section 42-1122.
- S. To comply with the requirements of section 42-5031, the department may disclose to the state treasurer, to the county stadium district board of directors and to any city or town tax official that is part of the county stadium district confidential information attributable to a taxpayer's business activity conducted in the county stadium district.
- T. The department shall release confidential information as requested by the attorney general for purposes of determining compliance with and enforcing section 44-7101, the master settlement agreement referred to therein and subsequent agreements to which the state is a party that amend or implement the master settlement agreement. Information disclosed under this subsection is limited to luxury tax information relating to tobacco manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers and retailers and information collected by the department pursuant to section 44-7101(2)(j).
- U. For proceedings before the department, the office of administrative hearings, the board of tax appeals or any state or federal court involving penalties that were assessed against a return preparer or electronic return preparer pursuant to section 42-1103.02 or 42-1125.01, confidential information may be disclosed only before the judge or administrative law judge adjudicating the proceeding, the parties to the proceeding and the parties' representatives in the proceeding prior to its introduction into evidence in the proceeding. The confidential information may be introduced as evidence in the proceeding only if the taxpayer's name, the names of any dependents listed on the return, all social security numbers, the taxpayer's address, the taxpayer's signature and any attachments containing any of the foregoing information are redacted and if either:
- 1. The treatment of an item reflected on such return is or may be related to the resolution of an issue in the proceeding.
- 2. Such return or return information relates or may relate to a transactional relationship between a person who is a party to the proceeding

- 10 -

and the taxpayer which directly affects the resolution of an issue in the proceeding.

V. The department may disclose to the attorney general confidential information received under section 44-7111 and requested by the attorney general for purposes of determining compliance with and enforcing section 44-7111. The department and attorney general shall share with each other the information received under section 44-7111, and may share the information with other federal, state or local agencies only for the purposes of enforcement of section 44-7101, section 44-7111 or corresponding laws of other states.

```
Sec. 3. Section 43-1075, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 43-1075. Credit for motion picture production costs: definitions
```

A. Beginning from and after December 31, 2005 through December 31, 2010, a credit is allowed against the taxes imposed by this title for motion picture production costs paid by a motion picture production company in this state that are directly attributable to the production of one or more motion pictures in this state. The amount of the credit is equal to a percentage of the amount of motion picture production costs paid in this state as follows:

<u>Production costs</u>	<u>Percentage credit</u>
\$250,000 - \$1,000,000	10%
\$1,000,001 - \$3,000,000	15%
More than \$3,000,000	20%

- B. The department shall not allow in any year tax credits that exceed the aggregate amount prescribed in section 41-1517.
- C. The department shall not allow a credit under this section to a taxpayer who has a delinquent tax balance owing to the department under this title or title 42.
- D. To qualify for a credit under this section, the motion picture production company must:
  - 1. Employ residents of this state in production as follows:
- (a) In 2006, twenty-five per cent of full-time employees working in this state must be residents of this state.
- (b) In 2007, thirty-five per cent of full-time employees working in this state must be residents of this state.
- (c) In 2008 and every subsequent taxable year, fifty per cent of full-time employees working in this state must be residents of this state.
- 2. Include in the production credits for each commercial motion picture, other than a commercial advertisement OR MUSIC VIDEO, an acknowledgement that the production was filmed in Arizona.
- 3. Receive preapproval and postapproval from the department of commerce pursuant to section 41-1517.
- E. A MOTION PICTURE PRODUCTION COMPANY THAT HAS RECEIVED A LETTER OF QUALIFICATION AND IS APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PURSUANT TO SECTION 41-1517, SUBSECTIONS I AND K, AT ITS EXPENSE, MAY VOLUNTARILY SUBMIT

- 11 -

TO AN AUDIT OF ITS PRODUCTION COSTS AND OTHER OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 41-1517 AND BY THIS SECTION, BY EITHER THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, PURSUANT TO TITLE 42, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 7, OR BY AN INDEPENDENT CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT IN THIS STATE, TO CONFIRM ITS QUALIFICATION FOR A CREDIT UNDER THIS SECTION. THE AUDITOR SHALL TRANSMIT CERTIFIED COPIES OF THE FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS OF THE AUDIT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND THE MOTION PICTURE PRODUCTION COMPANY. IF THE AUDIT CONFIRMS THAT THE COMPANY QUALIFIES UNDER SECTION 41-1517 AND FOR THE CREDIT UNDER THIS SECTION, THE CREDIT IS NOT SUBJECT TO RECAPTURE, DISALLOWANCE, REDUCTION OR DENIAL WITH RESPECT TO EITHER THE MOTION PICTURE PRODUCTION COMPANY OR TO ANY SUBSEQUENT TRANSFEREE OF THE CREDIT, AND SUBSECTION H, PARAGRAPH 4, OF THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY. WITHIN THIRTY DAYS AFTER APPLICATION FOR A CREDIT UNDER THIS SECTION OR AFTER AN AUDIT UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, WHICHEVER IS LATER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE A WRITTEN CREDIT CERTIFICATE TO THE APPLICANT STATING THAT THE CREDIT IS NOT SUBJECT TO RECAPTURE.

- E. F. Co-owners of a motion picture production company, including partners in a partnership, members of a limited liability company and shareholders of an S corporation as defined in section 1361 of the internal revenue code, may allocate the credit allowed under this section among the co-owners on any basis without regard to their proportional ownership interest. The total of the credits allowed all such owners of the motion picture production company may not exceed the amount that would have been allowed for a sole owner of the company.
- F. G. If the allowable tax credit for a taxpayer exceeds the taxes otherwise due under this title on the claimant's income, or if there are no taxes due under this title, the taxpayer may carry the amount of the claim not used to offset the taxes under this title forward for not more than five consecutive taxable years' income tax liability.
- G. H. All or part of any unclaimed amount of credit under this section may be sold or otherwise transferred under the following conditions:
- 1. A single sale or transfer may involve one or more transferees, and a transferee may in turn resell or transfer the credit subject to the same conditions of this subsection.
- 2. Both the transferor and transferee must submit a written notice of the transfer to the department within thirty days after the sale or transfer. The transferee's notice shall include a processing fee equal to one per cent of the transferee's tax credit balance or two hundred dollars, whichever is less. The notice shall include:
  - (a) The name of the motion picture production company.
  - (b) The date of the transfer.
  - (c) The amount of the transfer.
- (d) The transferor's tax credit balance before the transfer and the remaining balance after the transfer.
  - (e) All tax identification numbers for both transferor and transferee.

- 12 -

- (f) Any other information required by rule.
- 3. A sale or transfer of the credit does not extend the time in which the credit can be used. The carryforward period of time under subsection  $\digamma$  G of this section for a credit that is sold or transferred begins on the date the credit was originally earned.
- 4. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED BY SUBSECTION E OF THIS SECTION, if THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT a transferor was not qualified or was disqualified from using the credit at AND THE DETERMINATION WAS MADE BEFORE the time of the transfer, the department shall either disallow the credit claimed by a transferee or recapture the credit from the transferee through any authorized collection method. The transferee's recourse is against the transferor.
- 5. In the case of any failure to comply with this subsection, the department shall disallow the tax credit until the taxpayer is in full compliance.
- H. I. The department shall maintain annual data on the total amount of monies credited pursuant to this section, and shall provide those data to the department of commerce on request.
- I. J. The department, with the cooperation of the department of commerce, shall adopt rules and publish and prescribe forms and procedures as necessary to effectuate the purposes of this section.
- J. K. The credit allowed by this section is in lieu of any allowance for state tax purposes of a deduction of those expenses allowed by the internal revenue code.
- $\mathsf{K}$ . L. For the purposes of this section, "motion picture" and "motion picture production company" have the same meanings prescribed in section 41-1517.
  - Sec. 4. Section 43-1163, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 43-1163. Credit for motion picture production costs:

    definitions
- A. Beginning from and after December 31, 2005 through December 31, 2010, a credit is allowed against the taxes imposed by this title for motion picture production costs paid by a motion picture production company in this state that are directly attributable to the production of one or more motion pictures in this state. The amount of the credit is equal to a percentage of the amount of motion picture production costs paid in this state as follows:

```
    Production costs
    Percentage credit

    $250,000 - $1,000,000
    10%

    $1,000,001 - $3,000,000
    15%

    More than $3,000,000
    20%
```

- B. The department shall not allow in any year tax credits that exceed the aggregate amount prescribed in section 41-1517.
- C. The department shall not allow a credit under this section to a taxpayer who has a delinquent tax balance owing to the department under this title or title 42.

- 13 -

2

3

4

5

6 7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16 17

18 19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

- D. To qualify for a credit under this section, the motion picture production company must:
  - 1. Employ residents of this state in production as follows:
- (a) In 2006, twenty-five per cent of full-time employees working in this state must be residents of this state.
- (b) In 2007, thirty-five per cent of full-time employees working in this state must be residents of this state.
- (c) In 2008 and every subsequent taxable year, fifty per cent of full-time employees working in this state must be residents of this state.
- 2. Include in the production credits for each commercial motion picture, other than a commercial advertisement OR MUSIC VIDEO, an acknowledgement that the production was filmed in Arizona.
- 3. Receive preapproval and postapproval from the department of commerce pursuant to section 41-1517.
- E. A MOTION PICTURE PRODUCTION COMPANY THAT HAS RECEIVED A LETTER OF QUALIFICATION AND IS APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PURSUANT TO SECTION 41-1517, SUBSECTIONS I AND K, AT ITS EXPENSE, MAY VOLUNTARILY SUBMIT TO AN AUDIT OF ITS PRODUCTION COSTS AND OTHER OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 41-1517 AND BY THIS SECTION, BY EITHER THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, PURSUANT TO TITLE 42, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 7, OR BY AN INDEPENDENT CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT IN THIS STATE, TO CONFIRM ITS QUALIFICATION FOR A CREDIT UNDER THIS SECTION. THE AUDITOR SHALL TRANSMIT CERTIFIED COPIES OF THE FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS OF THE AUDIT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND THE MOTION PICTURE PRODUCTION COMPANY. AUDIT CONFIRMS THAT THE COMPANY QUALIFIES UNDER SECTION 41-1517 AND FOR THE CREDIT UNDER THIS SECTION, THE CREDIT IS NOT SUBJECT TO RECAPTURE, DISALLOWANCE, REDUCTION OR DENIAL WITH RESPECT TO EITHER THE MOTION PICTURE PRODUCTION COMPANY OR TO ANY SUBSEQUENT TRANSFEREE OF THE CREDIT, AND SUBSECTION H, PARAGRAPH 4, OF THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY. WITHIN THIRTY DAYS AFTER APPLICATION FOR A CREDIT UNDER THIS SECTION OR AFTER AN AUDIT UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, WHICHEVER IS LATER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE A WRITTEN CREDIT CERTIFICATE TO THE APPLICANT STATING THAT THE CREDIT IS NOT SUBJECT TO RECAPTURE.
- E. F. Co-owners of a motion picture production company, including corporate partners in a partnership and members of a limited liability company, may allocate the credit allowed under this section among the co-owners on any basis without regard to their proportional ownership interest. The total of the credits allowed all such owners of the motion picture production company may not exceed the amount that would have been allowed for a sole owner of the company.
- F. G. If the allowable tax credit for a taxpayer exceeds the taxes otherwise due under this title on the claimant's income, or if there are no taxes due under this title, the taxpayer may carry the amount of the claim not used to offset the taxes under this title forward for not more than five consecutive taxable years' income tax liability.

- 14 -

- G. H. All or part of any unclaimed amount of credit under this section may be sold or otherwise transferred under the following conditions:
- 1. A single sale or transfer may involve one or more transferees, and a transferee may in turn resell or transfer the credit subject to the same conditions of this subsection.
- 2. Both the transferor and transferee must submit a written notice of the transfer to the department within thirty days after the sale or transfer. The transferee's notice shall include a processing fee equal to one per cent of the transferee's tax credit balance or two hundred dollars, whichever is less. The notice shall include:
  - (a) The name of the motion picture production company.
  - (b) The date of the transfer.
  - (c) The amount of the transfer.
- (d) The transferor's tax credit balance before the transfer and the remaining balance after the transfer.
  - (e) All tax identification numbers for both transferor and transferee.
  - (f) Any other information required by rule.
- 3. A sale or transfer of the credit does not extend the time in which the credit can be used. The carryforward period of time under subsection  $\digamma$  G of this section for a credit that is sold or transferred begins on the date the credit was originally earned.
- 4. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED BY SUBSECTION E OF THIS SECTION, if THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT a transferor was not qualified or was disqualified from using the credit at AND THE DETERMINATION WAS MADE BEFORE the time of the transfer, the department shall either disallow the credit claimed by a transferee or recapture the credit from the transferee through any authorized collection method. The transferee's recourse is against the transferor.
- 5. In the case of any failure to comply with this subsection, the department shall disallow the tax credit until the taxpayer is in full compliance.
- H. I. The department shall maintain annual data on the total amount of monies credited pursuant to this section, and shall provide those data to the department of commerce on request.
- I. J. The department, with the cooperation of the department of commerce, shall adopt rules and publish and prescribe forms and procedures as necessary to effectuate the purposes of this section.
- J. K. The credit allowed by this section is in lieu of any allowance for state tax purposes of a deduction of those expenses allowed by the internal revenue code.
- $\mathsf{K.}$  L. For the purposes of this section, "motion picture" and "motion picture production company" have the same meanings prescribed in section 41-1517.

- 15 -