



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

Substitute Bill No. 5554

* HB05554CE_FIN031808 *

AN ACT CONCERNING TAX CREDITS AND INCENTIVES FOR LIVE THEATER AND THE PERFORMING ARTS INDUSTRY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of
2 section 12-217jj of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes is
3 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
4 *1, 2008, and applicable to income years commencing on or after January 1,*
5 *2008*):

6 (3) (A) "Qualified production" means entertainment content created
7 in whole or in part within the state, including motion pictures;
8 documentaries; any construction, technical work, staging or
9 performance in connection with live productions of theater, music,
10 dance, opera and other performing arts occurring in venues that are
11 owned or operated by not-for-profit organizations; long-form, specials,
12 mini-series, series, sound recordings, videos and music videos and
13 interstitials television programming; interactive television; interactive
14 games; videogames; commercials; infomercials; any format of digital
15 media, including an interactive web site, created for distribution or
16 exhibition to the general public; and any trailer, pilot, video teaser or
17 demo created primarily to stimulate the sale, marketing, promotion or
18 exploitation of future investment in either a product or a qualified
19 production via any means and media in any digital media format, film

20 or videotape, provided such program meets all the underlying criteria
21 of a qualified production.

22 Sec. 2. Subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 12-217kk of the
23 2008 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following
24 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008, and applicable to*
25 *income years commencing on or after January 1, 2008*):

26 (3) "Infrastructure project" means a capital project to provide basic
27 buildings, facilities or installations needed for the functioning of the
28 digital media and motion picture industry, and live performing arts
29 productions in this state.

30 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) The Office of Workforce
31 Competitiveness, in consultation with the Departments of Education
32 and Higher Education, shall develop a live production training
33 program to support the state's performing arts industry. The program's
34 curriculum shall be designed for individuals seeking a career in the
35 production of live performing arts.

36 (b) The training program for production shall use a three-phased
37 model in accordance with this subsection to create a skilled workforce
38 in the performing arts industry in the state. Such program shall
39 provide training by members of labor organizations and practical
40 experience on live production projects. Courses using the curriculum
41 shall be available at locations in different regions of the state.

42 (1) The first phase course shall be an introduction to the various
43 production departments within the industry: (A) Production
44 management and direction, (B) production office coordination, (C)
45 budget, accounting and payroll, (D) sound, (E) property, (F) set
46 decoration and set dressing, (G) set construction and scenic art, (H)
47 lighting, (I) costume and wardrobe, (J) hair and make-up, and (K)
48 visual effects. The first phase course shall provide an overview of the
49 production of live performing arts.

50 (2) For purposes of the second phase course, a selection process

51 shall be established in which trainees apply for specific department
52 training, and instructors select trainees that are best equipped to
53 achieve success in such departments. After such selection, the first two
54 weeks of the second phase course shall consist of specialized classroom
55 training in the trainees' chosen department. During this time, trainees
56 will learn, in part, by preparing a short live production that will be
57 presented through the collaboration of all of the departments. The
58 second two weeks of the phase two course shall involve a collaboration
59 of the departments in which the departments complete production of a
60 live production. Instructors shall act as advisers to their departments
61 and oversee the work that trainees do but shall not perform work
62 themselves. The second phase course shall be undertaken in
63 conjunction with a university, community or other nonprofessional
64 performing arts group.

65 (3) The third phase course shall be an eight to twelve-week paid
66 mentorship position on a professional production of performing arts.
67 The mentorship program shall be available to residents of this state
68 who, (A) have professional experience in some aspect of the
69 performing arts industry, (B) are graduates of academic programs in
70 such fields, and (C) have successfully completed first and second
71 phase courses of the live production training program. The mentorship
72 program shall be designed for persons who are ready to declare a
73 professional interest in a particular area of performing arts production
74 and have the intention of applying for membership in the appropriate
75 labor organization. Funding for the mentorship program shall be
76 shared on a percentage basis with sponsoring production employers in
77 professional performing arts organizations. The Office of Workforce
78 Competitiveness may provide additional internship programs for
79 individuals and students who desire entry-level experience in the
80 performing arts industry. Funding for such internship positions shall
81 be shared with sponsoring production employers.

82 (c) The Office of Workforce Competitiveness shall submit a report,
83 in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint
84 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of

85 matters relating to commerce, on or before October 1, 2009. Such report
 86 shall include, but not be limited to, the syllabus for the program
 87 outlined in subsection (b) of this section, an evaluation of available
 88 resources for such program, and any recommendations for changes in
 89 the curriculum.

90 Sec. 4. (*Effective July 1, 2008*) The sum of ____ dollars is appropriated
 91 to the Office of Workforce Competitiveness, from the General Fund,
 92 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, for purposes of developing and
 93 implementing the program of education and training described in
 94 section 3 of this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2008, and applicable to income years commencing on or after January 1, 2008</i>	12-217jj(a)(3)(A)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2008, and applicable to income years commencing on or after January 1, 2008</i>	12-217kk(a)(3)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section

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Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

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