



*Matthew B. Galligan*

Town of South Windsor  
Town Manager  
1540 Sullivan Ave  
South Windsor, CT 06074  
(860) 644-2511 ext 280

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State Senator Gary D. LeBeau  
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State Senator L. Scott Frantz  
Representative Mike Alberts

**SUPPORT BILL 249 AN ACT CONCERNING  
THE FILM PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT**

Distinguished Members of the Commerce Committee

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The premise of this bill would allow the State to strategically focus the State's Film Production Tax Credit. In so doing, care needs to be taken to maintain the State's marketability to bricks and mortar projects that foster the development of a permanent Connecticut film industry. The Town of South Windsor strongly urges you to reform this tax credit by limiting the credits to Connecticut based film studios and not by capping the credits.

For the past several months, the Town of South Windsor has worked in partnership with the Department of Economic and Community Development and under the leadership of the Governor's Office to recruit a major motion picture studio consisting of eight state of the art sound stages, a high technology set manufacturing facility and a screening and visitors' center to our State. In addition to the bricks and mortar, the project also calls for training literally thousands of our fellow Connecticut residents to work in this industry at high paying, union jobs. Permanent jobs! Finally, the facility if built, would be a center of commerce; spending as much as \$400 million per year in the local economy generating thousands more jobs, and economic opportunity.

Last week I led a contingent of South Windsor Officials to visit Albuquerque Studios, the developers' existing studio, and met with local New Mexico officials. The benefits to New Mexico have been documented by an independent study conducted by Ernst and Young. But we wanted to hear it first hand, and we did! The report cites that for every dollar of tax credit awarded by the State, \$1.50 in tax revenue was returned to the State and its localities. The reality is that the impact goes far beyond this figure and has reinvented the local economy.

The Town of South Windsor is aggressively moving forward to attract this project and will offer the developer millions in tax incremental financing and contribute land to the project. But the Town cannot do this alone. Without tax credits in sufficient quantity to attract major motion pictures, this project will not move forward and the promise of 2,000 jobs will be lost. This project is a real opportunity to reverse the economic trends that have plagued our state and region; I implore you to take great care as you tweak this program. A proper application of these tax credits is vital to the investment of more than \$100 million in infrastructure, the infusion of more than \$400 million annually into the Connecticut economy and the creation of thousands of jobs.

Sincerely,

*Matthew B. Galligan*