



**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE**  
**Fiscal Note**

Fiscal Note On: **SB 235** SLS 17RS 418  
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**  
 Opp. Chamb. Action:  
 Proposed Amd.: **w/ PROP SEN COMM AMD**  
 Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> May 1, 2017 8:33 AM	<b>Author:</b> MORRELL
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Economic Development	<b>Analyst:</b> Greg Albrecht
<b>Subject:</b> Film Tax Credit Program	

TAX/TAXATION OR SEE FISC NOTE GF RV Page 1 of 1  
 Provides relative to the Motion Picture Production Tax Credit. (gov sig)

Establishes maximum amounts of tax credit issuance by the Dept of Economic Development of \$150 million per fiscal year for productions applying between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2020. For applications on and after July 1, 2020, the maximum amount of tax credit issuance is to be \$180 million per year. In addition, the maximum amount of credit claims that the Dept of Revenue can pay is set at \$180 million per year beginning July 1, 2017. If under utilized in any year, the amount not claimed can be added to the next year's cap, allowing more credit claims in subsequent years. Numerous other program modifications are proposed by the bill, all within the credit issuance and claim caps for the program. Sunsets the program such that no credits can be issued on and after July 1, 2023.

Effective upon governor's signature.

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>5 -YEAR TOTAL</b>
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

  

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>5 -YEAR TOTAL</b>
State Gen. Fd.	SEE BELOW					
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Annual Total</b>						

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

LED indicates no additional costs with administering the program although the bill contains substantial changes to the program with effectively different program parameters applying to productions based on various dates of application.

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

Currently, there is no maximum provided for tax credits issued by LED. This bill establishes a maximum of \$150 million for the next three fiscal years, FY18 - FY20, then increases the issuance cap to \$180 million per year thereafter. The current law cap on actual credit claims against the state fisc is \$180 million in FY18, and then no cap is provided beyond that year. This bill will continue the \$180 million per year credit claim cap for all years after FY18. According to LED, there is roughly \$280 million of credits in the program to be awarded (\$230 million) or already awarded (\$50 million) that could be claimed in FY19. To the extent all of those credit amounts were to be presented against the state fisc in FY19, this bill would constrain the cost to the \$180 million maximum and result in \$100 million not being paid that year. That excess would roll over to an FY20 obligation of the state, leaving \$80 million more that could be claimed and paid from credits issued to productions in FY18 and FY19.

The bill is limiting the issuance of credits to \$150 million per year for the next three years. The program rule of thumb is that these credits would be presented against the state fisc roughly two years after a production enters the program, meaning that realizations of these amounts would occur in FY20 - FY22, along with other potential credits already issued but not yet claimed and paid, up to the \$180 million cap on credit claimed and paid.

The bill appears to be attempting to provide for a convergence of credit amounts being issued with credit amounts being claimed and paid at \$180 million per year, the approximate cost of the program under current law. Variation around that level can occur though based on the volume and pace of productions flowing through the program.

In addition, the bill contains a provision that requires the calculation of credits claimed and paid against the \$180 million cap to deduct the full face value of credits, even if credits are claimed through the buyback option where the state pays 85¢ on the dollar currently and 90¢ on the dollar in the proposed bill. This applies to credits sold back to the state after July 1, 2017 and, to the extent credits are sold back to the state, works to reduce the real cost of the program to something less than the \$180 million nominal cost implied in the cap on claims paid. Finally, the bill allows no credits to be issued by LED after July 1, 2023. Existing participants will continue through the program, and a surge of applications may occur before that date. Realized costs will continue for two or more years after that point, but should diminish as productions complete the program while no new productions enter the program.

Senate  
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H}  
 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H}

House  
 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}  
 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

*Evan Brasseaux*  
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**Staff Director**