



March 31, 2010

The Honorable Larry Cretul
The Florida House of Representatives
420 The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

Dear Speaker Cretul:

The Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce fully supports House Bill 697, Entertainment Industry Economic Development Incentive, which revises the entertainment industry financial incentive program to provide corporate income tax & sales & use tax credits to qualified entertainment entities.

The Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce's legislative agenda was created this year with the primary focus of job creation, retention, and expansion. Toward that end, the passage of HB 697 would benefit the state as Florida currently possesses the third largest, trained, professional, entertainment industry workforce in the country. The economic return on investment statistics of the bill also include for every \$1 invested in film, TV and digital media tax incentives production companies spend approximately \$7 on Florida wages and Florida goods & services. Additionally, in 2008, every \$1 of film incentives provided by the state was associated with \$22 in additional gross state product and \$1.44 in additional tax revenue.

The Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce recognizes the state's current financial situation but also understands that Florida's investment in the film, TV and digital media industry will produce an immediate positive return on our investment and will trigger continued investment in Florida for years to come.

We sincerely hope that you can make the passage of HB 697 a priority during this legislative session. If the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce can be of any assistance to you or your staff, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you for all that you do for the communities across the state of Florida.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chuck Sykes".

Chuck Sykes, Chair
(*Sykes Enterprises, Inc.*)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Rohrlack".

Robert J. Rohrlack, Jr., CEcD
President and CEO

CC: Senate President Atwater, State Senator Haridopolos, State Rep. Cannon,
Hillsborough County Legislative Delegation

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