Subject: Support for Increasing the Location Offset

To The Senate Economics Legislation Committee,

I hope this message finds you well. I am reaching out to express my enthusiasm and support for the recent government announcement to raise the Location Offset from 16.5% to 30% as part of the 2023/2024 Budget.

As an independent film and television producer, I am deeply invested in the success and sustainability of our industry. The increase in the Location Offset is a significant step towards fostering growth and ensuring the longevity of our sector in Australia. The Location Offset incentive serves as a pivotal tool in attracting international productions to our shores, encouraging partnerships but also driving investment in our local industry. This initiative facilitates collaborations between local and international production companies, fostering knowledge exchange and skill development, thereby strengthening our industry's capabilities.

To provide some context, the Location Offset incentives have been instrumental in cementing Jungle's collaboration with larger companies, recently we're in discussions with Fox Studios to develop and produce a 10 x half comedy series for Fox Network, set in US and filming on the Gold Coast in Australia. This would result in approx. AUD25M spent in Australia, on Australian crew, cast and facilities. This underscores how such partnerships not only amplify our production capabilities but also position Australia as a highly sought-after destination for international ventures.

We are also currently in development on a US set feature film, financed from out of the US, with an AUD25M spend in Australia, to be directed by Phillip Noyce and filmed in Brisbane.

However, without the increased Offset Incentive, Australian production companies risk losing future joint projects with international partners in an already fiercely competitive global market. This not only affects job opportunities for Australian casts and crews but also hampers the development of our local talent pool. By attracting more productions to our shores, we can provide invaluable training and experience to established and emerging filmmakers and enhancing our industry on competitive global stage. Moreover, the economic benefits extend beyond the film and TV sector, stimulating growth across various industries.

In light of this, I urge the Senate Economics Legislation Committee to expedite their review and introduce the increased Location Offset Legislation before the 30th of June. This proactive measure will ensure the continuity and growth of our industry, fostering creativity, innovation, and economic prosperity within the film and TV sector.

I appreciate your consideration in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Chloe Rickard Partner/Executive Producer Jungle Entertainment