

To Whom It May Concern:

As a member of the Australian Screen Industry, I am writing in support of the Government's Budget to increase the Location Offset. I have been fortunate to make a sustainable career over the past several years working on both local and international productions, and I wish to continue doing so.

International productions allow local crew members to learn from the industry's best. For example, during a production filmed in Victoria, the crew was able to work under Academy Award winners and nominees from multiple departments, including production design and camera. This allowed newcomers to the industry to learn much more quickly and accelerate their careers as their work was held to a high standard. Crew members can bring their new skills to Australian productions, resulting in higher-quality content.

In the wake of the pandemic and the writer's strike, many productions have been delayed, leaving many people without work. I request the Senate Economics Legislation Committee report back as soon as possible and recommend that the Location Offset Legislation be passed by the Senate by June 30th. The industry needs the Location Offset to be passed by no later than June 30th, as this will provide certainty to those looking to bring productions to Australia.

A competitive incentive partnered with Australian locations, educated crew, world-class studios and post-production facilities makes Australia an extremely desirable location for international productions.

By working in this industry, I raised a deposit for my first home. I am now one of many Australians who rely on international productions to survive. I implore you to allow the Location Offset Legislation to pass. Please let me continue working in the industry I love and keep my home.

Sincerely,

Joel Mitchell