



LOUISIANA SENATE

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SENATOR MORRELL URGES GOVERNOR VETO OF HB 829

SAYS FILM TAX CREDIT CAP WILL HAVE COSTLY UNINTENDED IMPACT

District 3 State Senator JP Morrell is urging Governor Bobby Jindal to veto House Bill 829. HB 829, authored by Rep. Joel Robideaux, sets a \$180 million cap per year for three years on the redemption of tax credits for expenditures associated with motion picture productions. Once the cap has been reached, pending credits are first in line for the next year. Sen. Morrell says that the cap will have consequences, harming the industry and the state.

In a letter sent to Governor Jindal this morning, Sen. Morrell writes, "First it encumbers an asset already earned by the taxpayer and the constitutionality of this could be called into question. Litigating this issue could be in the millions of dollars. More importantly, taxpayers who earn this credit could be waiting for years to claim them. This fact alone could have a chilling effect on film production in Louisiana."

While Sen. Morrell is a strong advocate for reforms to reign in and secure the future of the program, he believes that this cap will in effect the local film industry and add more cost to the state

"The film industry has undeniably created jobs along with having a positive and indirect impact to our economy," he writes. "We hope that you will stand with us to allow this industry and its thousands of works to have a home here in Louisiana."

HB 829 was approved by the legislature in the final moments of the recently adjourned legislative session. The measure now sits on Governor Jindal's desk for final approval.

A copy of Sen. Morrell's letter to the Governor is attached.

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