



# MEETING WITH LEGISLATORS

## Know our message.

This year we want to **thank elected officials for their support** and passing [ESHB 1914](#) during the 2022 legislative session. The bill **supports bigger budget productions that provide family wage jobs with health and retirement benefits** and allows the industry to **build a film ecosystem** that supports career connected learning, workforce development and supporting emerging filmmakers in Washington State.

The enhanced incentive for filming in a rural county will **drive work to communities across the state** and the focus to better serve people from historically underrepresented communities **sets Washington apart from other incentive programs.**

## Facts about the Motion Picture Competitiveness Program:

- For every \$1 we invest in film, we generate \$10 in economic boosts for our communities.
- Since 2007, film projects approved for funding assistance have brought an estimated \$151 million in direct in-state spending and created over 25,500 jobs for Washington residents.
- No dollars are paid out until after projects have created the jobs and spent the money with local businesses.

## Know your audience.

In addition to knowing the personal background of your legislator, know how your legislator voted on past production incentive bills. (Check out our [handy cheat sheet](#) for biographical info and vote history of your elected official.) Be sure to say **thank you to those that have historically supported the program.** For the legislators who didn't do the right thing in the past say, **"I hope we can count on your support moving forward."**

## It's all about FILM.

Many meetings become ineffective because a participant brings up other issues or stray from the key talking points about supporting the Motion Picture Competitiveness Program (MPCP) and the statewide film industry. Stay focused and **tell your elected official about what you do in the film industry.**

## Go local. Really local. Really, really local.

Legislators want to hear your thoughts and opinions because you are a constituent. One of your most useful strategies is to relate your position on the issue to yourself. **Tell your personal story, why you care.** Facts and figures don't stick, but personal stories about your experience in film do!

## THE DO NOT'S

- Don't go "off-message" or discuss unrelated issues.
- Don't engage in partisan critiques.
- Don't use threats.
- Don't be late.
- Don't get too comfortable.
- Don't forget to follow-up.

## MORE TIPS

- Be present and listen.
- Ask questions.
- Speak honestly and tell your personal story.
- Breathe.

## AND Don't forget....

Tell us how things went by [filling out this online form](#). Did your elected official request additional information about the MPCP or the film industry or did they ask questions you couldn't answer? Let us know and we will follow up with information! AND - Don't forget to write a quick email thanking your elected official for their time.