



## Summary of Recent Media Coverage

August - October 2014

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Below is a brief sampling of recent media stories featuring the California Film Commission and/or the state's Film/TV Tax Credit Program. Links to many of the clips are available on the CFC website's "In the News" page at [http://film.ca.gov/2014\\_InTheNews.htm](http://film.ca.gov/2014_InTheNews.htm).

Outlet: Deadline.com  
Headline: **California Film Commission Appointments:  
IATSE VP & PMK-BNC Boss Added**  
Date: 10/22/14



### Excerpt

Next year will see not only an influx of hundreds of millions dollars in new tax credits for film and TV but also restrictions taken off the eligibility of tentpole features and network pilots. Additionally, the CFC must develop a new system to allocate credits to replace the now-discarded lottery system it has had in place since the program started in 2009.

<http://deadline.com/2014/10/california-film-commission-appointments-thomas-davis-michael-nyman-jerry-brown-858042/>

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Outlet: Variety  
Headline: **Incentives and Stars Help California  
Keep Productions in the State**  
Date: 10/15/14



### Excerpt

One of the unshakable rules of Hollywood in recent years has been that as much as stars want to work in Los Angeles, they can't turn the tide against the lure of runaway production... Modine was a keynote speaker this summer along with Danny DeVito at the California Film Commission's locations conference to rally support for increasing the state's tax credit program. He elicited laughs from the crowd by quipping that Vancouver was planning to host the Oscars, and that Louisiana had bought the Hollywood sign.

<http://variety.com/2014/artisans/production/california-keeps-productions-because-of-incentives-stars-1201330117/>

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Outlet: The Wall Street Journal  
Headline: **California Aims to Lure Movie Industry Back**  
Date: 10/7/14

**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.**

Excerpt

California is hoping to conjure some real-life jobs in the smoke-and-mirrors world of visual effects for movies and television shows—part of the state’s latest attempt to win back its most famous industry.

[http://online.wsj.com/articles/california-aims-to-lure-movie-industry-back-1413756702?mod=WSJ\\_hpp\\_MIDDLENexttoWhatsNewsFifth](http://online.wsj.com/articles/california-aims-to-lure-movie-industry-back-1413756702?mod=WSJ_hpp_MIDDLENexttoWhatsNewsFifth)

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Outlet: The National Law Review  
Headline: **Agreement Reached to Expand California Tax Incentives for Film Production**  
Date: 10/7/14

**THE  
NATIONAL LAW REVIEW**

Excerpt

The State of California has finalized language to approve a tripling of funds designated for film tax credits in an effort to reinvigorate filming and media production within the state. The California Film Commission is instructed to allocate available credits under the program based upon application of amounts to projects starting with the highest jobs ratio. The program credit pool is allocated to filming projects as follows:

<http://www.natlawreview.com/article/agreement-reached-to-expand-california-tax-incentives-film-production>

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Outlet: KPCC-FM  
Headline: **California Reloads for Battle Over Runaway Production**  
Date: 10/01/14

**KPCC 89.3**  
Southern California Public Radio

Excerpt

Amy Lemish, executive director of the California Film Commission, on California's advantages and continuing competition from other states: “For the most part we can match most locations. We have the best infrastructure, we have the most plentiful crews, you don’t have to bring anything in —we have it all — and you can never underestimate the value of sun.”

<http://www.scpr.org/programs/the-frame/2014/10/01/39631/california-reloads-for-battle-over-runaway-product/>

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Outlet: Los Angeles Daily News  
Headline: **Valley Businesses Hope for Return of  
Movie, Television Work**  
Date: 09/20/14



Excerpt

Under AB 1839, California's film tax credit program is extended for another five years, starting in fiscal year 2015-2016. The law also allows blockbuster movies and network dramas to apply for tax credits, categories once excluded. Television was added to compete with New York, which recently was home to the production of 10 prime-time television shows.

<http://www.dailynews.com/business/20140920/valley-businesses-hope-for-return-of-movie-television-work>

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Outlet: KFTV  
Headline: **The Role of a Film Commission**  
Date: 09/30/14



Excerpt

According to Lemisch, "The California Film Commission serves as the gateway for accessing the state's newly expanded film/TV tax credit programme. It also provides a range of services to support productions of all sizes and budgets. Services include free permits on state property, location assistance and an expansive online location database, production assistance/troubleshooting, and help dealing with local jurisdictions via a network of over 50 regional film offices."

<http://www.kftv.com/news/2014/09/30/filming-abroad-the-role-of-a-film-commission>

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Outlet: FOX11 (Los Angeles)  
Headline: **Thinking Big in the Golden State**  
Date: 09/18/14



Excerpt:

The new program is overseen by the California Film Commission's Amy Lemisch. "We've been hearing stories stories for years and years about crew struggling to pay the bills because of the lack of work. That's what this program is all about; getting film workers back to work."

<http://www.myfoxa.com/clip/10600000/film-amp-tv-tax-credits%20%28good%20story%29>

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Outlet: TheWrap  
Headline: **Gov. Brown Signs California's Blockbuster TV, Film Tax Credits Into Law**  
Date: 09/18/14



Excerpt:

It provides \$1.65 billion in incentives over the next five years, with \$330 million going to producers annually, more than tripling the current level. It will allow many more projects to qualify for the subsidies, including big-budget features and TV pilots, and phase out the hugely over-subscribed lottery currently used to select applicants. Details of the changes can be found at the California Film Commission web site.

<http://www.thewrap.com/gov-brown-signs-californias-blockbuster-tv-film-tax-credits-into-law/>

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Outlet: California Newswire  
Headline: **Gov. Brown Signs Historic Deal for California Film Tax Credit Extension for Five Years**  
Date: 09/18/14



Excerpt:

California's film and television industry has faced increasing competition in recent years from subsidies by other states and countries. Since its creation in 2009, the California Film and Television Job Retention and Promotion Act prevented as many as 51,000 well-paying jobs from leaving the state, and helped generate \$4.5 billion in economic activity. Despite the program's success, figures from the U.S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics show that from 2004-2012, California lost more than 16,000 film- and television-industry jobs, resulting in more than \$1.5 billion in lost wages and economic activity.

[http://californianewswire.com/2014/09/18/CNW21051\\_144126.php/gov-brown-signs-historic-deal-for-california-film-tax-credit-extension-for-five-years/](http://californianewswire.com/2014/09/18/CNW21051_144126.php/gov-brown-signs-historic-deal-for-california-film-tax-credit-extension-for-five-years/)

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Outlet: Reuters  
Headline: **California Triples Tax Breaks for Film Production**  
Date: 09/19/14



Excerpt:

The state's economy has taken a \$2 billion hit from runaway production in the past four years as producers sought cheaper places to do business, according to the California Film Commission. The bill increases the amount of money available for tax credits for film and television production to \$330 million per year from about \$100 million.

<http://in.reuters.com/article/2014/09/18/us-usa-film-california-idINKBN0HD2DO20140918>

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Outlet: Business Insider  
Headline: **California Just Made a Big Move to Restore Hollywood's Dwindling Dominance**  
Date: 09/19/14



Excerpt:  
The move is meant to combat California's economy has taken a \$2 billion hit from runaway production in the past four years as producers sought cheaper places to do business, according to the California Film Commission.

<http://www.businessinsider.in/California-Just-Made-A-Big-Move-To-Restore-Hollywoods-Dwindling-Dominance/articleshow/42843054.cms>

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Outlet: ABC7 (Los Angeles)  
Headline: **'Runaway Production' Law: Keep TV/Film Projects in California**  
Date: 09/18/14



Excerpt:  
The legislation is intended to bring jobs back to California by offering financial incentives. AB 1839 allocates \$330 million every year for the next five years in tax credits, money intended to make the state more competitive. The bill offers incentives for shows that relocate to California, and it requires that a majority of production and shooting occurs in the state. It applies to small and big productions.

<http://abc7.com/news/runaway-production-law-keep-tv-film-projects-in-state/314936/>

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Outlet: FOX Business  
Headline: **Governor Visits Famed Chinese Theatre to Sign Bill Tripling Tax Credits for TV Shows, Film**  
Date: 09/18/14



Excerpt:  
Under the new law, a lottery system used to award tax credits is being replaced by one based on the number of jobs a production creates and its overall positive impact on the state. Tax credits will also be allowed for bigger-budget productions than in the past.

<http://www.foxbusiness.com/markets/2014/09/18/governor-visits-famed-chinese-theatre-to-sign-bill-tripling-tax-credits-for-tv/>

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Outlet: Variety  
Headline: **California Governor Signs Expansion of State Film and TV Tax Credit**  
Date: 09/18/14



Excerpt:

The California Film Commission can start distributing the funds on July 1, but it also will have to rework the way that the money is awarded to producers. A scoring system in which will be determined based on applicants' abilities to employ a significant number of workers will replace the present lottery where credits were awarded by chance.

<http://variety.com/2014/artisans/news/california-governor-signs-expansion-of-state-film-and-tv-tax-credit-1201308384/>

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Outlet: The Sydney Morning Herald  
Headline: **California Launches Bid to Claw Back 'Runaway' Film Production from Australia and Elsewhere**  
Date: 09/19/14



Excerpt:

The state of California has declared war on rival states and countries which have used tax incentives to lure Hollywood's production away from its global capital. So-called "runaway production" has become a thorn in Hollywood's side, as Australia and Canada and the US states of Texas, Georgia and North Carolina continue to lure production out of the city.

<http://www.smh.com.au/entertainment/movies/california-launches-bid-to-claw-back-runaway-film-production-from-australia-and-elsewhere-20140919-10j4qr.html>

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Outlet: Crain's New York Business  
Headline: **Calif. Strikes at NY's TV 'Thieves'**  
Date: 09/3/14



Excerpt:

California is tired of seeing so many film jobs move elsewhere—especially to New York—and has decided to fight back with bigger tax breaks. The question is what that will mean for New York.

<http://www.crainsnewyork.com/article/20140903/BLOGS01/140909961/calif-strikes-at-nys-tv-thieves>

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Outlet: The Times-Picayune  
Headline: **California to Triple Film Tax Credits:  
What Does it Mean for Louisiana?**  
Date: 09/16/14

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**The Times-Picayune**

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Excerpt:

When you do the math, Louisiana's incentives are still preferential to California's from a producer's standpoint, but there are also some difficult-to-quantify factors that go into the decision of where to film. California still boasts the most welcoming film infrastructure thanks to decades of Hollywood-based filmmakers. That means it has large studios and a built-in labor base, but Louisiana has slowly been building up its own infrastructure in recent years.

[http://www.nola.com/entertainment/baton-rouge/index.ssf/2014/09/california\\_to\\_triple\\_film\\_tax.html](http://www.nola.com/entertainment/baton-rouge/index.ssf/2014/09/california_to_triple_film_tax.html)

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Outlet: Los Angeles Times  
Headline: **Are film tax credits cost effective?**  
Date: 08/30/14

**Los Angeles Times**

Excerpt:

Tired of seeing Hollywood take its business elsewhere, California is moving to triple tax subsidies for film and TV productions, boosting incentives to \$330 million annually and making the state competitive with New York, Georgia and other states that are courting the entertainment industry with ever-richer incentives.

<http://www.latimes.com/entertainment/envelope/cotown/la-et-ct-fi-film-tax-credits-20140831-story.html#page=1>

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Outlet: FOX11 (Los Angeles)  
Headline: **New Incentives for The Film Industry**  
Date: 08/28/14



Excerpt:

For years the California film industry has been fighting runaway production, but it hasn't been easy given all of the lucrative incentives other states and countries have been offering... The new plan is 'priority based' and it's all about jobs. The 'priority' is for companies that create more jobs and bring more dollars into the state with their productions.

<http://www.myfoxla.com/story/26394345/new-incentives-for-the-film-industry>

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Outlet: KFSN-TV (ABC 30 Visalia)  
Headline: **Tulare County Hopes Incentives Will  
Lure Movie Producers**  
Date: 08/29/14



Excerpt:

Tulare County is hoping producers from the big, and small screens, will choose the South Valley as their next big shooting location. Now there is a new amendment to a state law may help them lure more filmmakers.

<http://abc30.com/entertainment/tulare-county-hopes-incentives-will-lure-movie-producers/286431/>

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Outlet: TheWrap  
Headline: **California Super-Sizes Its Film, TV Tax Credit Program**  
Date: 08/28/14



Excerpt:

The changes in the program, which is overseen by the California Film Commission, go beyond the funding as well. The measure does away with the lottery currently used to determine eligibility for the incentives. Replacing it will be what state officials describe as a "competitive process based on job creation" that will take effect starting in January 2016, with two allocation cycles per year. The California Film Commission will create regulations to develop a scoring system for applicants.

<http://www.thewrap.com/california-super-sizes-its-film-tv-tax-credit-program/>

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Outlet: The New York Times  
Headline: **California Agrees to Expand Film and TV Incentive**  
Date: 08/27/14



Excerpt:

The new tax credit incentive will provide \$330 million in state money annually for local film and television production, replacing an expiring program that was limited to \$100 million a year and awarded on a lottery.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2014/08/28/business/media/california-agrees-on-deal-to-expand-film-and-tv-incentive-to-330-million-a-year.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/08/28/business/media/california-agrees-on-deal-to-expand-film-and-tv-incentive-to-330-million-a-year.html?_r=0)

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Outlet: Variety  
Headline: **Sacramento Sees Rally to Boost California TV and Movie Tax Credits**  
Date: 08/20/14



Excerpt:

"I think the rally was very successful and it showed that there's a lot of momentum now for AB 1839," said Steve Dayan, chairman of the California Film Commission and secretary-treasurer of Local 399 of the Intl. Brotherhood of Teamsters. "We were determined to show that this is a lot more than just a Southern California issue."

<http://variety.com/2014/artisans/news/sacramento-sees-rally-to-boost-california-tv-and-movie-tax-credits-1201287081/>

Outlet: Here and Now (NPR)  
Headline: **California Tries To Lure Film Industry Back Home**  
Date: 08/19/14



Excerpt:  
Now California is fighting back. A bill is moving through the state legislature that would quadruple the amount of tax incentives available to TV and movie makers each year.

<http://hereandnow.wbur.org/2014/08/19/california-film-industry>

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Outlet: AL.com  
Headline: **While Alabama Tweaks its Film Office, California Looks to Lure Film Industry Back to Hollywood**  
Date: 08/22/14



Excerpt:  
Hollywood's home state is looking to tweak its law to lure the industry it once defined back to Tinseltown, NPR reports. Other states and countries have used tax programs to lure thousands of film related jobs and millions of dollars in economic activity away from California, according to the report. Film production in California has fallen by half since the 1990s and television pilot production has fallen 73 percent since its peak in 2007, the report states.

[http://www.al.com/news/index.ssf/2014/08/while\\_alabama\\_tweaks\\_its\\_film.html](http://www.al.com/news/index.ssf/2014/08/while_alabama_tweaks_its_film.html)

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Outlet: The Washington Post  
Headline: **California's House Members Call on Jerry Brown to Sign Film Tax Incentive Bill**  
Date: 08/19/14



Excerpt:  
Thirty-five members of California's congressional delegation urged Gov. Jerry Brown (D) to sign legislation greatly expanding the state's tax subsidies for film and television production in a letter, arguing that "the future of our state's economy and cultural identity depends on it."

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/govbeat/wp/2014/08/19/californias-u-s-house-members-call-on-jerry-brown-to-sign-film-tax-incentive-bill/>

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Outlet: Bloomberg  
Headline: **California Panel Moves Bill Increasing Aid to Hollywood**  
Date: 08/14/14



Excerpt:

The \$100 million in film and TV subsidies now available from California represents less than 7 percent of the \$1.5 billion that state analysts say is paid out to producers nationwide by participating states. New York tops the list at \$420 million, followed by Louisiana at \$236 million, Georgia at \$140 million and Florida, with \$131 million.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-08-15/california-panel-moves-bill-increasing-aid-to-hollywood.html>

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Outlet: Sacramento Business Journal  
Headline: **Revamped film tax credit set at \$400M**  
Date: 08/15/14



Excerpt:

Beyond extending eligibility to big-budget Hollywood movies, other changes to the legislation include a new requirement to ensure a set percentage of the production is filmed -- thus creating jobs -- in California. Also, larger incentives would be paid to out-of-state film crews coming to California and those filmed outside of Los Angeles.

<http://www.bizjournals.com/sacramento/news/2014/08/14/revamped-film-tax-credit-set-at-400m.html>

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Outlet: Los Angeles Daily News  
Headline: **\$400 Million Bill to Stem Runaway Film and TV Production Would Keep California Competitive**  
Date: 08/15/14



Excerpt:

California's film and television industry has faced increasing competition in recent years from subsidies by other states and countries... Since the state's incentives were instituted in 2009, officials estimated it has kept more than 51,000 jobs in the state and helped generate \$4.5 billion in regional economic activity. Still, the more sizable or readily available credits from other states have forced the exit of some 16,000 jobs and a loss of \$1.5 billion in wages.

<http://www.dailynews.com/business/20140814/400-million-bill-to-stem-runaway-film-and-tv-production-would-keep-california-competitive>

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Outlet: FOX11 (Los Angeles)  
Headline: **California Mayors Lobby for Film/TV Tax Credits**  
Date: 08/14/14



Excerpt:

Whether you realize it or not, how many films and TV shows made in California has a huge impact on the economy in our state and in your neighborhood... According to the California Film Commission's annual report, the losses from runaway production are more than \$2 billion in lost revenue in the last four years.

<http://www.myfoxla.com/clip/10471935/garcetti-runaway-production>

Outlet: Variety  
Headline: **Quality Crews, Service Offset Puny Film Incentives in California**  
Date: 08/13/14



Excerpt:  
The California Film Commission recently found that 83% of projects that apply for, and don't receive, its tax credit incentive decide to film outside California. Among those that stay, only a few are major studio releases... The California Film Commission found that of 30 big-budget tentpole features released in 2013, only two — "Star Trek Into Darkness" and "The Hangover Part III" — were shot in California.

<http://variety.com/2014/artisans/news/low-budget-film-projects-stay-in-l-a-for-quality-crews-services-1201281329/>

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Outlet: Associated Press  
Headline: **Lawmakers Consider Expanding Hollywood Tax Credit**  
Date: 08/09/14



Excerpt:  
The current program allows films with budgets between \$1 million and \$75 million and television movies with a minimum budget of \$1 million to apply for a 20 percent tax credit. AB1839 would lift the cap so more expensive productions will be eligible for the tax credit, although only the first \$100 million of those productions would be eligible to receive it, according to Gatto's staff.

<http://sacramento.cbslocal.com/2014/08/09/lawmakers-consider-expanding-hollywood-tax-credit/>

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Outlet: California Forward  
Headline: **Reader Poll: Your Thoughts on Tax Incentives as Economic Drivers?**  
Date: 08/08/14



Excerpt:  
A bill aimed at curbing runaway production hopes to receive two thumbs up from the Senate Appropriations Committee on Monday, allowing it to advance to the Senate floor. California's film industry generates \$17 billion a year and has been losing jobs to other states and countries for several years. The legislation would expand California's Film and Television Production tax credit program, in an effort to reverse this trend.

<http://www.cafwd.org/reporting/entry/reader-poll-your-thoughts-on-tax-incentives-as-economic-drivers>

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Outlet: Variety  
Headline: **California Awards \$2.87 Million Credit to BET Series 'The Start Up' — If it Moves from Atlanta**  
Date: 08/03/14



Excerpt:

The [California Film Commission](http://www.californiafilmcommission.org/) has awarded a \$2.87 million tax credit to the BET series "The Start Up" for \$11.5 million in production costs — if it moves to the Golden State from Atlanta for its second season... TV series that filmed all previous episodes outside California are eligible for a 25% credit. Besides "Being Mary Jane" and "Let's Stay Togheter," series that have relocated to California and received the credit include "Important Things with Demetri Martin" (from New York), "Torchwood" (from U.K.), "Body of Proof" (from Rhode Island) and "Teen Wolf" (from Georgia).

<http://variety.com/2014/artisans/news/california-awards-2-87-million-credit-to-bet-series-the-start-up-if-it-moves-from-atlanta-exclusive-1201274029/>

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Outlet: Variety  
Headline: **Runaway Production Has Cost California \$2 Billion Since 2010**  
Date: 07/29/14



Excerpt:

For the first time, there's a calculation of just how much coin California is losing as a result of runaway production — and it's not a pretty picture. According to the California Film Commission, the state has lost \$2 billion in production spending since 2010. The org's just-released annual report on the state's production tax-credit incentives includes an analysis of the fate of the hundreds of projects that applied for the credit but were denied via the commission's lottery system.

<http://variety.com/2014/artisans/news/runaway-production-costs-2b-over-4-years-1201271230/>

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Outlet: KFTV  
Headline: **California Tax Credits Double Film Production**  
Date: 07/28/14



Excerpt:

According to a recent report released by the California Film Commission (CFC), a total of 45 feature films were produced from July 2013 to June 2014, compared to 26 the previous year... The increase in projects being filmed also meant a rise in employment, with 7,500 crew members hired compared 5,100 the previous year.

<http://www.kftv.com/news/2014/07/28/california-tax-credits-double-film-production>