



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL
MAYOR

April 2, 2019

Mr. Sanford Panitch
Chairman and CEO
Sony Pictures
10202 Washington Boulevard
Culver City, California 90232

Dear Mr. Panitch:

We are deeply concerned about the passage of HB 481 in Georgia, the adverse impact it will have on women in the state, and the message it will send at a time when women's hard-won constitutional rights are under assault from reactionary, extremist forces across the country.

We stand with women and men in Georgia and across America who have stood up and spoken out against HB 481, including leaders in the film and television industry who have called for a boycott on current and future production projects in Georgia should the Governor sign this measure into law. As the Writers Guild of America noted in their condemnation of HB 481, "This law would make Georgia an inhospitable place for those in the film and television industry to work."

By contrast, we not only offer the film and television industries diverse, cost-effective, and hospitable places to produce your work, we share your values and commitment to women's equality.

Chicago and Illinois are home to well-established and fast-growing film, television, and media production landscapes. Last year, Chicago alone was home to 520 film, television, and media productions. Cinespace Chicago Film Studios, already home to 31 sound stages, is expanding and will soon be the largest film studio in the country. The Illinois Film Office awards a 30 percent tax credit to film, television, and advertising productions for qualified expenditures on local crew, goods, and services.

New Jersey is considered the birthplace of the movie industry and has been the setting for hundreds of films and television productions. The Garden State offers a range of financial incentives including tax credits of up to 30 percent of production costs, a diversity of locations,

unparalleled access, and a workforce that ranks among the greatest concentration of film and television professionals outside of Hollywood.

We agree the industry should align your values with where you spend your money and boycott states not aligned with your progressive ideals. When those values are under attack, you have the responsibility and opportunity to leverage your power to make a difference.

Our cities and states are home to some of America's most creative, hard-working, and innovative production professionals. While we stand together in defense of the rights of our residents, we respectfully invite you to consider our locations for your future productions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rahn Emanuel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "R".

Mayor

JB Pritzker
Governor of Illinois

Phil Murphy
Governor of New Jersey