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**February 1, 2017 - New York State Legislative Economic  
Development Hearing**

**Yana Collins Lehman - Board Chair of the Post New York  
Alliance**

**On Behalf of the Post New York Alliance and Motion Picture  
Editors Guild, IATSE Local 700**

Good afternoon, Senators and Assembly members.

My name is Yana Collins Lehman. I am the Executive Director of The Post New York Alliance (PNYA). Post New York Alliance is comprised of over 65 companies from all over the State of New York and more than 600 individual post-production professionals working in film and television. These professionals work as editors of sound, picture, music, as foley artists and in visual effects amongst other titles. Post production workers represent a highly skilled workforce engaged on a project for many many months after the production component is concluded.

I would like to thank the committee for the opportunity to describe the unparalleled success of the Empire State Post Production Film and Television Tax Credit. This tax credit is a \$25-million-dollar sub-allocation of the Empire State Film and Television Tax Credit.

We testify today in support of the three-year extension of the tax credit contained in the Governor's proposed Executive Budget.

In 2016, The Post New York Alliance commissioned a report from HR & A to better understand the economic impact of the Post-Only part of the Empire State Film and Television Tax Credit on the economy of New York State. What we discovered is that the Post-Production Tax Credit has proven to be both a jobs creator and an economic winner for New York State

Over 40% of the jobs in what New York State traditionally defines as the post-production industry do not require a bachelor's degree, and over 90% of those offer on the job training.

In 2015, the post-production ecosystem generated \$128 million in state tax revenues, including individual income, corporate income, sales, selective sales, and other taxes.

35% more people work in the post-production ecosystem today than did in 2004.

20% of US-based post-production firms call New York State home.

11,260 people work in the post production ecosystem, including 4,470 freelancers.

Local 700 (The Editor's Guild) reported at the end of 2015, that pension and health benefits are up 92.8 percent over 2009. These are audited numbers.

This tax credit is greatly responsible for making New York State a national leader in post-production.

As an aside, PNYA works to be a good neighbor and help young people enter the industry. In 2016, the PNYA partnered with Empire State Development to provide Post Production Fellowships to 20 NYS college students. These Fellows came from 9 of the 10 economic regions in NYS.

The Governor's proposed extension of the Credit will ensure that projects which otherwise would site elsewhere comes to New York State and with these projects the many thousands of jobs as well. Additionally, the extension ensures the continuation of the millions of dollars of tax revenue for the state of New York being generated by this tax credit. It is a clear winner for New York State.

Thank you again for this opportunity and I look forward to any questions.

*Yana Collins Lehman, Board Chair, Post New York Alliance*