

Act No. 571
Public Acts of 2008
Approved by the Governor
January 15, 2009
Filed with the Secretary of State
January 16, 2009
EFFECTIVE DATE: January 16, 2009

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
94TH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2008**

Introduced by Senators Hardiman, Allen, Van Woerkom, Kuipers, Stamas, Brown, Gilbert, Jansen, Birkholz, McManus, Pappageorge, Richardville, Jelinek, Kahn, George, Garcia, Cherry, Jacobs, Whitmer, Prusi, Gleason, Barcia, Thomas, Anderson, Schauer, Clarke, Hunter and Olshove

ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 1175

AN ACT to amend 1984 PA 270, entitled "An act relating to the economic development of this state; to create the Michigan strategic fund and to prescribe its powers and duties; to transfer and provide for the acquisition and succession to the rights, properties, obligations, and duties of the job development authority and the Michigan economic development authority to the Michigan strategic fund; to provide for the expenditure of proceeds in certain funds to which the Michigan strategic fund succeeds in ownership; to provide for the issuance of, and terms and conditions for, certain notes and bonds of the Michigan strategic fund; to create certain boards and funds; to create certain permanent funds; to exempt the property, income, and operation of the fund and its bonds and notes, and the interest thereon, from certain taxes; to provide for the creation of certain centers within and for the purposes of the Michigan strategic fund; to provide for the creation and funding of certain accounts for certain purposes; to impose certain powers and duties upon certain officials, departments, and authorities of this state; to make certain loans, grants, and investments; to provide penalties; to make an appropriation; and to repeal acts and parts of acts," by amending section 88d (MCL 125.2088d), as amended by 2008 PA 223.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Sec. 88d. (1) The fund shall create and operate a loan enhancement program.

(2) As a separate and distinct part of the loan enhancement program, the fund may create a loan guarantee program that does all of the following:

(a) Provide a loan guarantee mechanism to financial institutions located in this state that provide commercial loans to qualified businesses, public authorities, and local units of government.

(b) Ensures that participating financial institutions do not refinance prior debt.

(c) Provide that a qualified business is only eligible for a loan guarantee under this section if it has a documented growth opportunity. As used in this subdivision, "documented growth opportunity" means a plant expansion, capital equipment investment, acquisition of intellectual property or technology, or the hiring of new employees to meet or satisfy a new business opportunity.

(d) Provide that a qualified business that engages primarily in retail sales is not eligible for a loan guarantee under this chapter unless the fund board makes a specific finding that the loan guarantee supports a new concept that has significant growth potential.

(e) Provide repayment provisions for a loan or a guarantee given to a qualified business that leaves Michigan within 3 years of the provision of the loan or guarantee or otherwise breaches the terms of an agreement with the fund.

(3) As a separate and distinct part of the loan enhancement program, the fund shall reestablish the small business capital access program that was previously operated by the fund for small businesses in a manner similar to how that program was operated before January 1, 2002. The small business capital access program shall operate on a market-driven basis and provide for premium payments by borrowers into a special reserve fund. The small business capital access program established by the board shall prohibit an officer, director, principal shareholder of a participating financial institution, or his or her immediate family members from receiving a small business capital access program loan from the financial institution. A loan under the small business capital access program may be issued to an eligible production company or film and digital media private equity fund even if the eligible production company or film and digital media private equity fund is not a small business. A loan under the small business capital access program shall provide that the proceeds of a loan may only be used for a business purpose within this state and may not be used for any of the following:

(a) The construction or purchase of residential housing.

(b) To finance passive real estate ownership.

(c) To refinance prior debt from the participating financial institution that is not part of the small business capital access program.

(4) As a separate and distinct part of the loan enhancement program, the fund shall establish a Michigan film and digital media investment loan program to invest in loans from the investment fund to eligible production companies or film and digital media private equity funds. The fund board shall make investments under this subsection only upon approval of the chief compliance officer and the Michigan film office after a review by the investment advisory committee. If an investment is made under this section, not more than \$15,000,000.00 may be loaned to any 1 eligible production company or film and digital media private equity fund for any 1 qualified production. The fund board may make an investment in a qualified production if all of the following are satisfied:

(a) The production is filmed wholly or substantially in this state.

(b) The eligible production company or the film and digital media private equity fund has shown to the satisfaction of the Michigan film office that a distribution contract or plan is in place with a reputable distribution company.

(c) The eligible production company or film and digital media private equity fund agrees that, while filming in this state, a majority of the below the line crew for the qualified production will be residents of this state.

(d) The eligible production company or film and digital media private equity fund posts a completion bond approved by the Michigan film office and has obtained no less than 1/3 of the estimated total production costs from other sources as approved by the chief compliance officer and the Michigan film office or has obtained a full, unconditional, and irrevocable guarantee of the repayment of the amount invested by the fund in favor of the investment fund that satisfies 1 or more of the following:

(i) The guarantee is from an entity that has a credit rating of not less than BAA or BBB from a national rating agency.

(ii) The guarantee is from a substantial subsidiary of an entity that has a credit rating of not less than BAA or BBB from a national rating agency.

(iii) The eligible production company or the film and digital media private equity fund provides a full, unconditional letter of credit from a bank with a credit rating of not less than A from a national rating agency.

(iv) The guarantee is from a substantial and solvent entity as determined by the investment advisory committee.

(e) The fund board may make a loan under this subsection at a market rate of interest for a qualified production of up to 80% of expected and estimated tax credits available to the eligible production company or film and digital media private equity fund under sections 455 to 459 of the Michigan business tax act, 2007 PA 36, MCL 208.1455 to 208.1459, if the eligible production company or the film and digital media private equity fund agrees to name the fund as its agent for the purpose of filing for the tax credits should the eligible production company not apply for the tax credits. The Michigan film office and the state treasurer shall determine the estimated amount of tax credits for purposes of this subsection. The fund board shall approve guidelines for the initiation of a loan and the terms of the loan under this subsection.

(f) A loan under this subsection may be converted to an equity investment by the fund board with the approval of the chief compliance officer and the Michigan film office.

(g) An eligible production company or film and digital media production company that receives a loan under this subsection is not also eligible for a loan for the same qualified production under subsection (5).

(h) Fifty percent of any earnings on a loan or investment under this subsection shall be deposited in the investment fund and the remainder of the earnings shall be deposited in the Michigan film promotion fund created under chapter 2A. One hundred percent of principal repaid under this subsection shall be deposited in the investment fund upon repayment.

(5) As a separate and distinct part of the loan enhancement program, the fund shall establish and operate the choose Michigan film and digital media loan fund to invest in loans from the investment fund to eligible production companies

or film and digital media private equity funds eligible for a tax credit under the Michigan economic growth authority act, 1995 PA 24, MCL 207.801 to 207.810, or sections 455 to 459 of the Michigan business tax act, 2007 PA 36, MCL 208.1455 to 208.1459. The fund board shall make investments under this subsection only upon approval of the chief compliance officer and the Michigan film office. A loan issued under this subsection is subject to all of the following requirements:

(a) A loan shall be provided at an interest rate of not less than 1%.

(b) The minimum amount of a loan under this subsection is \$500,000.00.

(c) The maximum term of a loan under this subsection is 10 years, including up to 3 years of deferred principal payments to align principal payments with receipt of primary incentives, as determined by the fund board.

(d) The value of the loan may not exceed the value of the primary incentive that the eligible production company or film and digital media private equity fund is eligible to receive over 7 years, as discounted by the fund board. A loan authorized by the fund board may provide for a loan amount equal to a portion or all of the discounted value of the primary incentives, as discounted by the fund board.

(e) The eligible production company or film and digital media private equity fund is responsible for repayment of the loan regardless of actual primary incentive amounts received.

(f) The eligible production company or film and digital media private equity fund is responsible for loan preparation and closing costs.

(g) An eligible production company or film and digital media private equity fund that receives a loan under this subsection is not also eligible for a loan for the same qualified production under subsection (4).

(h) The eligible production company or film and digital media private equity fund also obtains an additional loan from an accredited financial institution or other approved lending market.

(i) The loan shall be issued consistent with guidelines for the initiation of a loan and the terms of the loan under this subsection approved by the fund board.

(j) Fifty percent of any earnings on a loan under this subsection shall be deposited in the investment fund and the remainder of the earnings shall be deposited in the Michigan film promotion fund created under chapter 2A. One hundred percent of principal repaid under this subsection shall be deposited in the investment fund upon repayment.

(6) As a separate and distinct part of the loan enhancement program, the fund shall operate the choose Michigan fund program to invest in loans from the investment fund to a qualified business. The choose Michigan fund program shall operate on an incentive basis and shall provide loans to qualified businesses to promote and enhance significant job creation or retention within this state. The choose Michigan fund shall not make a loan under this subsection after September 30, 2009. Notwithstanding any requirement imposed by the fund before April 1, 2008, to receive a loan under this subsection, the fund board may or may not require a qualified business to obtain an additional loan from an accredited financial institution or other approved lending market to obtain a loan under this subsection. At the discretion of the fund board, not more than 3 loans provided through the choose Michigan fund may be forgivable. A loan issued under this subsection is subject to all of the following requirements:

(a) A loan shall be provided at an interest rate of not less than 1%.

(b) The minimum amount of a loan under this subsection is \$500,000.00.

(c) The maximum term of a loan under this subsection is 10 years, including up to 3 years of deferred principal payments to align principal payments with receipt of any primary incentives, as determined by the fund board.

(d) Except as provided in subdivision (g), the qualified business is responsible for repayment of the loan regardless of any primary incentives received.

(e) The qualified business is responsible for loan preparation and closing costs.

(f) The loan shall be issued consistent with guidelines for the initiation of a loan and the terms of the loan under this subsection approved by the fund board.

(g) A loan under this subsection may be converted to an equity investment by the fund board.

(h) The loan shall be subject to repayment provisions. If the loan is with a qualified business that closes down or relocates outside of Michigan anytime within 3 years after the term of the loan, then the provisions of the loan shall also include, at a minimum, immediate repayment of any outstanding principal, payment of a default interest rate, and repayment of any amounts forgiven.

(i) In determining whether to forgive all or a portion of a loan to a qualified business, the fund shall consider the net economic impact of the project on the state's economy. The loan agreement between the fund and the qualified business shall clearly enumerate the terms, conditions and requirements under which all or a portion of the loan may be forgiven, including, but not limited to, job creation and investment in this state.

(7) As used in this section:

(a) "Below the line crew" means that term as defined under section 459 of the Michigan business tax act, 2007 PA 36, MCL 208.1459.

(b) "Eligible production company" means that term as defined under section 455 of the Michigan business tax act, 2007 PA 36, MCL 208.1455.

(c) "Film and digital media private equity fund" means any limited partnership, limited liability company, or corporation organized and operating in the United States that satisfies all of the following:

(i) Has as its primary business activity the investment of funds in return for equity in qualified productions.

(ii) Holds out the prospect for capital appreciation from the investments.

(iii) Accepts investments only from accredited investors as that term is defined in section 2 of the federal securities act of 1963 and rules promulgated under that act.

(d) "Investment advisory committee" means the committee created within the department under section 91 of the executive organization act of 1965, 1965 PA 380, MCL 16.191.

(e) "Michigan film office" means the office created under chapter 2A.

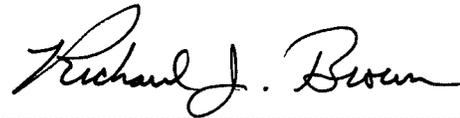
(f) "Primary incentive" means a tax credit an eligible production company is eligible to receive under the Michigan economic growth authority act, 1995 PA 24, MCL 207.801 to 207.810, or under sections 455 to 459 of the Michigan business tax act, 2007 PA 36, MCL 208.1455 to 208.1459.

(g) "Qualified production" means that term as defined under section 455 of the Michigan business tax act, 2007 PA 36, MCL 208.1455.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.



Secretary of the Senate



Clerk of the House of Representatives

Approved

.....
Governor