A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
REGARDING ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, the Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association is committed to assembling support on important community issues and priorities that which contribute significantly to enhancing the quality of life and effective marketing of the Central Florida destination; and

WHEREAS, the Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association supports legislation proposed in Florida House Bill 697 sponsored by Representative Stephen Precourt and Florida Senate Bill 1430 sponsored by Senator Michael Haridopolos that would provide tax credits as a viable alternative to cash rebates to increase production in Florida; and

WHEREAS, the certified production company only receives the tax credit after all its Florida expenditures have been verified, making this a true performance-based tax credit in which all investment occurs before a credit is issued; and

WHEREAS, the film and entertainment industry is unique in that the economic benefits extend into other industries, including restaurants, lodging, retail, construction and tourism, resulting an additional estimated 207,800 indirectly and directly related jobs, contributing $17.9 billion to the Gross State Product, $8.5 billion in income to Floridians, and $498 million in tax revenue in 2007; and

WHEREAS, for every dollar of film incentives provided by the state is associated with $22 in additional gross state product and $1.44 in additional tax revenue; and

WHEREAS, the 2008 Florida Legislature reduced the Office of Film & Entertainment’s incentive budget from $25 million to $5 million, and the following year increased this budget to $10 million for the 2009-2010 creating an unpredictable funding source that is having a significant negative impact on Florida’s film and entertainment workforce and the many business that provide goods and services to productions; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association supports the film and entertainment industry tax credit incentives;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Florida Legislature is requested in its 2010 Legislative Session to approve this proposal that will stable funding for the purpose of attracting productions by offering cash rebate on expenditures.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association this 29th day of January, 2010.

Signed this 29th day of January, 2010.

Paul Tang
2010 CFHLA Chairman
Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association

Richard J. Maladecki
CFHLA President
Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association