

Record Your Story

American film and TV jobs are going overseas. Tell Congress to bring the jobs home.

BEFORE YOU RECORD

- **Where:** Somewhere quiet and well lit, ideally with a background that shows your work, like a caterer by their truck or a carpenter at the lumber yard. If you aren't working right now, any place is fine!
- **How:** Film vertically on your phone. Record up to 60 seconds.
- **Answer in full sentences that repeat the question** ("The last show I worked on here was..."), since viewers won't hear the question.
- **Be specific:** dates, dollar amounts, place names, what you told your family. Don't name productions under NDA.

WHAT TO SAY

Open with your name, city and state, the last show you worked on, and what you do, explained the way you'd tell a neighbor who has never been on a set. Feel free to address this directly to your representatives (list attached).

Then answer one or two questions and/or use some of the calls to action.

QUESTIONS

1. When did you first notice the work leave the country?
A call that never came? A show that went to Toronto, London, or Budapest?
2. What does a week look like now? What have you had to give up, sell, or take on to get by?
3. Who else in your town feels it when production leaves? Name them: the diner, the lumber yard, the caterer.
4. What part of your craft took years to learn, and what happens if young people can't make a living doing it in the future?
5. If a Federal Film & TV Incentive brings production back to your state, how will that change things immediately?

CALLS TO ACTION

1. Say how the American film industry has gone overseas, whether you've lost your job, changed jobs, or left the business, and that we need to bring this industry home to all fifty states.
2. We have bipartisan support: Republicans, Democrats, and President Trump support a federal film and TV incentive.
3. We need to get this done now!

Local businesses and vendors, swap in: How much of your business came from productions, and what happened when they stopped? Tell us about one production and what it meant for you and your staff.

Close with this, after a pause:

"Please bring production home. Senators and Congresspeople of [YOUR STATE], please co-sponsor the Motion Picture, Television, and Entertainment Revitalization Act (MPTEA)!"

SEND IT IN

Post it yourself: upload it as an Instagram Reel, choose COLLABORATE, and tag @BringProductionHome, @USProductionCoalition, your Senators, and your Representative (see attached list).

Or upload your video to the Bring Production Home Dropbox and we will post it on our Instagram and tag your reps:
dropbox.com/request/jzf4wy4n9ojr47cazwhs

Interviewer Guide **FOR THOSE ON AN ACTIVE SET**

For coalition members recording interviews in person or over Zoom. Aim for 2–3 minutes.

SETTING UP

In person: Pick a quiet spot with a background that shows their work, like a caterer by their truck or a carpenter in the shop. If there's time, shoot B-roll of their tools, truck, shop, or street.

Over Zoom:

- Ask them to prop the phone or laptop at eye level, face a window, and sit in front of a background that shows their work.
- Have them also record themselves on their phone, vertically, during the call and send you that file. Zoom video is low quality and horizontal, and the phone file is what you'll use for the reel.
- In Zoom's recording settings, turn on "Record a separate audio file of each participant" so your voice can be cut out cleanly.
- Stay on mute while they talk, and nod instead of saying "uh-huh."

ASKING

Ask one question, then stay quiet; the best material usually comes after the pause. Ask them to answer in full sentences that repeat the question, since viewers won't hear you. Follow up with "What did that look like?" or "Tell me more about that day."

Warm-up	Have them open with their name, city and state, the last show they worked on, and what they do, explained the way they'd tell a neighbor who has never been on a set. They can address it directly to their representatives (list attached).
Before	Walk me through a day on a good show here. What did a steady year let your family do?
The turn	When did you realize something had changed? Was there a specific show that went overseas?
Now	What does your calendar look like compared to five years ago? What have you had to explain to your family? Is anything you own for this job just sitting there?
The town	When a show shoots here, where does the money go? Who has closed or cut back?
Stakes	Would you tell a young person to get into this work? What would a production truck on your street mean to you?
Calls to action	1. How the American film industry has gone overseas, whether they've lost their job, changed jobs, or left the business, and that we need to bring this industry home to all fifty states. 2. We have bipartisan support: Republicans, Democrats, and President Trump support a federal film and TV incentive. 3. We need to get this done now!

Close: Have them say, after a pause:

"Please bring production home. Senators and Congresspeople of [YOUR STATE], please co-sponsor the Motion Picture, Television, and Entertainment Revitalization Act (MPTEA)!"

SEND IT IN

Upload interviews to the Bring Production Home Dropbox. We will compile them for social, post them on @BringProductionHome and @USProductionCoalition, and tag the applicable reps:

dropbox.com/request/jzf4wy4n9ojr47cazwhs