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**MOTION BY SUPERVISORS LINDSEY P. HORVATH
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Support to Small Businesses Impacted by the Entertainment Strike

The entertainment industry is a major cultural and economic driver in Los Angeles County. While many are well aware of the importance of people in front of and behind the camera, a range of businesses are behind-the-scenes - such as caterers, prop houses, equipment rental - making the reality of television and film possible. To maintain its economic strength, we must ensure the resiliency of not only those directly employed by the entertainment industry but also the small businesses that are an integral part of the production ecosystem. It is because of the robust system of these businesses that the viability of the film industry and its workforce has continued to be competitive in Los Angeles.

In May 2023, the Writers Guild of America West and the Writers Guild of America East (WGA) labor unions went on strike, and for the first time in 63 years, the Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (SAG-AFTRA) union recently joined the picket lines in July 2023. According to the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation, the last Writers' strike in 2007-2008 led to a more than \$2 billion loss including \$981 million in lost revenue for various businesses that provide service to the industry and a \$1.3 billion loss to businesses that would have profited from the lost wages from writers and production staff. The simultaneous strikes are anticipated to have a substantial economic fallout with an expected

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output loss to exceed \$3 billion across the State of California.

With all productions virtually halted, these small businesses are also at a standstill. The strike has dealt yet another financial blow as they continue to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic which depleted their reserve funds. A drawn-out labor outage will likely have a devastating toll on all our communities.

While the Board of Supervisors issued a letter in May 2023 urging AMPTP and the WGA to return to the negotiating table to end the strike by paying workers better wages and improving work environments, the County is also at a crucial moment to support small businesses that serve the entertainment industry during this historic strike.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors directs the following:

1. Direct the Director of the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) and the LA County Film Office to work with FilmLA, Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC), and the California Film Commission to demonstrate and quantify, where possible, the economic impacts of the WGA and SAG-AFTRA strikes on businesses that serve the entertainment industry in the LA County region and to include this information in a report back in 30 days.
2. Direct the Director of the DEO and the LA County Film Office to provide a written report back in 30 days (with updates on a quarterly basis) on the implementation of a targeted outreach and engagement regarding programs, services, and capital available to businesses who are temporarily impacted by the WGA and

SAG-AFTRA strikes.

3. Direct the Director of the DEO, the LA County Film Office and relevant partners to report back in 60 days on the feasibility of standing up and resourcing a business interruption fund and other new or expanded solutions which would include researching similar efforts and a program model that is responsive to aggregated data, identifying needs of the small business community. DEO to also report back on the possibility of an ongoing fund in the event of future significant economic interruptions.
4. Direct DEO and Chief Executive Officer, through the Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations Division (CEO-LAIR), to work with State and Federal partners to identify available resources, and urge the Governor to declare a state of emergency for impacted businesses to receive federal assistance.