



Former House Democratic Leader Stacey Abrams recognizes that film and other forms of artistic enterprise are critical drivers of economic growth in Georgia. Georgia is the number one location worldwide for feature film production. This phenomenal success is an example of industry and state government working together to drive economic growth and grow good-paying jobs for Georgians.

During her time in the Legislature, Abrams consistently supported measures to attract entertainment companies to our state. She is committed to maintaining state support of tax credits and provisions.

- The creative industries in our state generate [\\$37 billion](#) in annual revenue, employing 200,000 Georgians and generating \$62.5 billion in total economic impact.
- Abrams [voted](#) in favor of the 2008 Georgia Entertainment Industry Investment Act (HB 1100), which overhauled the state's film tax credit and provided a 30% tax refund to major job creators in the entertainment industry. This legislation is widely regarded as the main impetus for the in-state filming boom.
- Abrams [co-sponsored](#) House Bill 338 to strengthen the Georgia Council for the Arts. The bill was signed into law in 2013.
- She also co-sponsored House Resolution 1577 creating a House Study Committee on Georgia [minority participation](#) in the film and television production industry. The House adopted the resolution in 2016.
- She also [voted](#) in favor of the 2017 expansion of the film tax credit (HB 199), which allowed for Georgia post-production companies to earn a 20% tax credit for specialty work such as editing and visual effects for projects shot outside of the state. While previous legislation has attracted out-of-state business, this has [helped](#) homegrown specialty entertainment companies develop.
- In 2017, Leader Abrams [sponsored](#) HB 147, which provided additional credits to post-production companies that employ veterans.

Leader Abrams has been a steadfast opponent of discriminatory bills that would leave out the voices of some communities in Georgia and drive away the film and entertainment industries.

- Stacey Abrams has consistently opposed discriminatory bills that would allow businesses to refuse to hire and serve LGBTQ+ applicants and customers. She has voted against state RFRA/FADA legislation and advocated against LGBT adoption restrictions.
- Major production companies such as Disney, Netflix, Viacom, Time Warner, Fox, Sony, MGM, CVS, and Comcast-NBC Universal have echoed this opposition, with several threatening an outright boycott of the state if such legislation were to pass. In Georgia, the governor is the person who will stop anti-LGBTQ bills from becoming law as the legislature continues to pass these bills. As governor, she would veto any such legislation.

While recognizing the key role that science education will play in developing a competitive workforce, Leader Abrams has refused to allow the arts and arts education to fall by the wayside. Abrams supports coordination of our technical colleges, state colleges, and universities to support the workforce needs of the film industry. As governor, she will focus on improving access, retention, and completion, including in training and degree programs within the arts and entertainment sector.

- Leader Abrams [voted](#) in favor of HB 264, which moved the Georgia Council for the Arts under the purview of the Georgia Department of Economic Development and re-emphasized the importance of the arts in forging a stronger Georgia.
- The Council provides over [\\$300,000](#) in annual grant funding to community institutions that promote engagement with the arts, including libraries, schools, arts centers, cities, historical societies, community theatres, and Boys & Girls Clubs.
- Leader Abrams was also a [sponsor](#) of HB 338, which revamped the Council by clarifying its role in economic development, officially recognizing arts promotion as the public policy of the state, granting formal advisory body status to the organization, and systematizing the grant-issuing function of the Council.
- As a graduate of a performing arts school and a published novelist, Stacey Abrams is all-too-familiar with the value of engaging with the arts from a young age. She has made expanding “STEAM” education a priority in her campaign for governor.
- Her “Bold Action for a Brighter Future” [Plan](#) would set aside an additional \$250,000 in grant funding for after-school science and art programming, targeted primarily at Title I elementary schools with high percentages of students living below the poverty line.

Abrams has been endorsed by prominent labor organizations, including Teamsters Local 728 which includes workers in the film industry.