

XX September 2020

The Hon Scott Morrison MP  
Prime Minister  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister

### **Future jobs and economic recovery through Australia's world-leading screen industry**

Australia is in the middle of an unprecedented crisis. We face generational challenges to get people back to work safely so our economy can recover. We stand ready to contribute to this vital task, to rebuild businesses and get large numbers of Australians working again.

We can do this and more. We have the unique capacity to lift spirits, enrich lives and join Australians together through telling compelling and diverse Australian stories, in our own voices, as well as build the brand and reputation of Australia around the world – benefiting countless other export businesses through trade, tourism and education.

We are the writers, producers, actors, directors, crews and creatives who bring our nation's stories to the screen. As an industry, screen brings together thousands of workers and businesses, whose crafts and skillsets run the gamut of business enterprise and innovation, creative endeavours, technical mastery and logistical problem-solving.

For every famous face or household name there are thousands of people behind the scenes – building sets, stitching costumes, crunching numbers, feeding hordes, and keeping us all safe. The Australian screen industry plays an important role in the Australian economy, with a total contribution of \$5.34 billion.

But our ability to contribute to recovery, and bring Australians along on a journey of shared culture is at risk. Uncertainty is costing Australia jobs and driving businesses to the wall.

To unlock the economic, cultural and employment potential of our industry, we need:

- Return of regulation for commercial broadcast and subscription television to provide certainty to the 2021 production market, and to safeguard the 15,000 jobs at risk from the current suspension of the rules
- Considered transition to a new platform-neutral set of rules which ensures that Australians see Australian stories on all the platforms they are using (eg, Netflix, Amazon, Stan, etc)
- Modernised, competitive tax offsets to incentivise private investment
- Well-funded public broadcasters and screen agencies

Ours is a shovel-ready industry, which stands to make a unique contribution to Australia's future economy and provide sustainable employment for many thousands of Australians. Our ability to do this, and to keep telling the distinctive stories that Australians love, is dependent on your Government. We urge you to act.

Signed by: