

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	2022 Legislative Agenda – Georgia Music Investment Act (Add-On)
AGENDA SUMMARY:	Approval is requested for a resolution urging the Georgia General Assembly to support legislation to update and improve the Georgia Music Investment Act to make Georgia and our communities across the state more competitive globally.
INITIATED BY:	City Manager’s Office

Recommendation: Approval is requested for a resolution urging the Georgia General Assembly to support legislation to update and improve the Georgia Music Investment Act to make Georgia and our communities across the state more competitive globally.

Background: The Georgia General Assembly overwhelmingly passed and Governor Nathan Deal signed, HB 155 that created the Georgia Music Investment Act. Many cities and counties in Georgia have tried to bring jobs and economic growth to their communities but have been unsuccessful due to the fact that the music tax credits are not workable.

Analysis: We hereby formally request the local legislative delegation to the Georgia General Assembly support the passage of legislation that will update and improve the Georgia Music Investment Act. Specifically, we urge the local legislative delegation to the Georgia General Assembly to support legislation that:

- Increases the base credit from a 15% to a 30% income tax credit for Live Music Rehearsals and Tour Origination, Recorded Music and Music Scored for Film, TV and Video Games;
- Allow the music credit to be transferred or sold (*similar to film, video gaming and post production*);
- Lower thresholds to be more competitive: Tour origination – Lowered from \$500,000 to \$100,000; recorded music and music scored for Film, TV and Video Games – Lowered from \$250,000 and \$100,000 respectively to \$50,000; and
- Allows production companies to aggregate multiple projects to meet the minimum threshold amounts.

Financial Considerations: The City is expected to receive additional revenues if many of the listed proposals are passed by the Georgia General Assembly.

Recommendations/Actions: Approval is requested for a resolution urging the Georgia General Assembly to support legislation to update and improve the Georgia Music Investment Act to make Georgia and our communities across the state more competitive globally.

A RESOLUTION
NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION URGING THE GEORGIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO
SUPPORT LEGISLATION TO UPDATE AND IMPROVE THE GEORGIA MUSIC
INVESTMENT ACT TO MAKE GEORGIA AND OUR COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE
STATE MORE COMPETITIVE GLOBALLY.**

WHEREAS, the music industry has made significant contribution to Georgia's economy;
and,

WHEREAS, fostering and expansion of the Georgia-based music industry will lead to
further significant contribution to the economy, job creation, and welfare of this state; and,

WHEREAS, the music industry in Georgia, through the creativity and effort of many
talented and dedicated performers, producers, promoters, technicians, and others working in
many different musical genres and styles, has entertained and given great pleasure to millions of
people worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the music industry contributes substantially to the quality of life and
economic welfare of citizens of this state; and,

WHEREAS, in light of the above, it is highly desirable to encourage and promote the
continued growth and success of the music industry in this state; and,

WHEREAS, the Georgia General Assembly overwhelmingly passed and Governor
Nathan Deal signed, HB 155 that created the Georgia Music Investment Act; and,

WHEREAS, many cities and counties in Georgia have tried to bring jobs and economic
growth to their communities but have been unsuccessful due to the fact that the music tax credits
are not workable; and,

WHEREAS, making changes and improvements to the Georgia Music Investment Act
will help communities across Georgia benefit by creating jobs and economic growth; and,

WHEREAS, Columbus music businesses contribute along with Georgia's music
Industry in creating over \$313 million in city and state tax revenue; and,

WHEREAS, The Loft, The Civic Center, The River Center, and The Columbus
Symphony create jobs and investment in our city; and,

WHEREAS, Columbus State University Schwob School of Music is creating
tomorrow's musical talent; and,

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper to consider the following aspects of the music
industry in Georgia:

- (1) The Georgia Music Investment Act is the only entertainment credit that is not transferable;
- (2) Since the passage of HB 155 in 2017, many states and localities across the United States have adopted more attractive tax credits to better compete with Georgia; and
- (3) Improvements to the Georgia Music Investment Act will make Georgia and our communities more competitive on the global stage.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY RESOLVES:

We hereby formally request the local legislative delegation to the Georgia General Assembly support the passage of legislation that will update and improve the Georgia Music Investment Act. Specifically, we urge the local legislative delegation to the Georgia General Assembly to support legislation that:

- Increases the base credit from a 15% to a 30% income tax credit for Live Music Rehearsals and Tour Origination, Recorded Music and Music Scored for Film, TV and Video Games;
- Allow the music credit to be transferred or sold (*similar to film, video gaming and post production*);
- Lower thresholds to be more competitive: Tour origination – Lowered from \$500,000 to \$100,000; recorded music and music scored for Film, TV and Video Games – Lowered from \$250,000 and \$100,000 respectively to \$50,000; and
- Allows production companies to aggregate multiple projects to meet the minimum threshold amounts.

Let a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to each member of the local delegation to The Georgia General Assembly.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the ___ day of _____, 2021 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen voting	_____.
Councilor Barned voting	_____.
Councilor Crabb voting	_____.
Councilor Davis voting	_____.
Councilor Garrett voting	_____.
Councilor House voting	_____.
Councilor Huff voting	_____.
Councilor Thomas voting	_____.
Councilor Tucker voting	_____.
Councilor Woodson voting	_____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson, III, Mayor