CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

STATE CAPITOL
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA
95814

May 28, 2019

David A. Goodman, President
Writers Guild of America West
7000 West Third Street
Los Angeles, CA 90048

Dear Mr. Goodman:

As members of the California Legislature, we stand in support of the action taken by members of the Writers Guild of America to ensure talent agencies end their conflicted practices and act as proper fiduciaries when representing their clients. The entertainment industry is vital to our state's economy and writers, who are at the creative heart of the business, have made the simple demand that an agency's commission must be based on a percentage of what its client earns.

Talent agencies were formed for the purpose of representing writers and other talent and maximizing their clients' income. But decades of consolidation and billions in private equity investment have transformed the talent agency industry into one controlled by a few large agencies that have put maximizing their profits ahead of the interests of their clients. As a result, the WGA has reported declining writer pay at a time of unprecedented prosperity for these talent agencies and the major studios.

To realign agency incentives with those of their clients, WGA members decided collectively, by a 95.3% vote, that they will not be represented by talent agencies that profit by leveraging access to their clients. More than 7,000 writers have taken the difficult but necessary step of terminating their relationships with agencies that have not agreed to these terms. We stand in solidarity with your members in this fight to ensure fair and proper representation.

Sincerely,

Chris Ka 1027

Jerry Hill SD13

AD25 AD80

AD54 AD51