



8 October 2025

The Hon Tony Burke MP  
Minister for the Arts  
House of Representatives  
PO Box 6022  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

*cc: The Hon. Anika Wells MP, Minister for Communications and Sport*

**Re: Australian content regulations for streaming platforms**

Dear Minister

Screen stories are the most accessible form of culture available to audiences. They play an important social and cultural role by representing and reflecting Australian's lives.

Since the 1970s, the Australian government has ensured local audiences have access to Australian films, drama series, documentaries and children's programs through local content regulations. Yet, as audiences have shifted to online streaming platforms, these regulations have failed to keep pace.

This has left Australian audiences with limited access to their own stories and culture while the Australian screen industry has shrunk by an estimated 60-70 per cent since 2022/2023.

Aside from the tremendous cultural loss that reduced Australian production entails, the knock-on effect on employment in the sector is enormous, with many small producers already going out of business, impacting production trades such as set design, costume, and lighting.

To protect and promote Australian storytelling and our local workforce, the government must adapt local content obligations to streaming platforms.

The Albanese Government has already committed to local content streaming obligations as part of the National Cultural Policy, Revive, as well as a commitment by Labor in the 2019, 2022 and 2025 federal elections. We have seen the introduction

of similar rules in India, resulting in increased investments by platforms in local, India-centric content.

However, despite extensive consultation and a promised start date of 1 July 2024, no legislation has been introduced, and this delay has continued to hurt our film and TV industry, as they are left in limbo.

The urgency of this reform has become more pronounced with the announcement of the 100% tariff on productions made outside of the US. Without proper safeguards and investment obligations, this would be an additional blow to the industry resulting in a devastating and possibly existential impact.

We, the crossbench, call on the government to deliver on its promise to legislate an obligation for streaming platforms to invest 20 per cent of Australian revenue in Australian stories by 30 June 2026.

Alternatively, if there is hesitation to proceed with the promised proposal, the government must put forward other approaches that adequately safeguard the future of the industry.

**We welcome a meeting with you, and Minister Wells, for an update on the proposal in the next sitting period.**

Yours sincerely

**Zali Steggall OAM MP**  
**Federal Member for Warringah**

**Allegra Spender MP**  
**Federal Member for Wentworth**

**Kate Chaney MP**  
**Federal Member for Curtin**

**Nicolette Boele MP**  
**Federal Member for Bradfield**

**Sophie Scamps MP**  
**Federal Member for Mackellar**

**Monique Ryan MP**  
**Federal Member for Kooyong**

**Helen Haines MP**  
**Federal Member for Indi**

**Elizabeth Watson-Brown MP**  
**Federal Member for Ryan**

**Senator Jacqui Lambie**  
**Senator for Tasmania**

**Senator David Pocock**  
**Senator for ACT**