

Model 4b is the fairest and frankly Australian way to have an OPEN MARKET that is not unnecessarily and at times criminally regulated and doesn't create an environment of bias gatekeepers like what we have suffered for over thirty years in the screen sector.

We currently have a flawed tax payer funded system for supporting a few distributors (not unexpectedly now the wealthiest companies in the business) and Screen Australia who supports a few production companies many run by people who have worked within Screen Australia or been on the board. We shouldn't have theatrical distributors dictating which films are made in the same way the television broadcasters or international screeners should not be the gatekeepers to tax payer money. Screen Australia should not be in a position to determine what companies should be supported in the sector by what they deem are "significant track records". We should not have a "peer" review system handing out tax payers money within Screen Australia that consistently breeds blatant nepotism. This rort has gone on long enough and needs removal.

The gatekeeper system present at Screen Australia has even encroached on the Offset tax office process which was supposed to be a purely tax office based decision. This is surely illegal and needs removal.

I suggest that Screen Australia be immediately disbanded. The producer offset could be managed better within the tax office itself (Screen Australia has failed on something that was entrusted to them) and the support mechanisms for Indigenous , LGBTI, gender matters and other culturally important programs be managed under an existing organisation such as the AFI or by state bodies. These programs should operate by a support mechanism for those in need not as an exclusion system for others.

The producer offset would remain and the money saved by removing this unnecessary layer of bureaucracy and bias production financing that props up mates and colleagues of Screen Australia, could go to increasing the television/online and games Producer Offset to 40%.

As a huge kickstart to the industry in addition to the 40% Producer Offset the government should increase the Tax deduction to 150% for investment in screen content. This would be a huge incentive for investment in to the sector with no upfront expenditure for the government. Let producers raise money in an open and fair way from investors and not tie them up with over legislation and restrictions. Give the good projects an opportunity to play in an open market without tying one or sometimes both hands behind their back.

So in summary, I strongly support **Model 4b with 40% Producer Offset and 150% tax deduction benefits** to open up the screen market to all and kickstart investment and then production.