ARTICLE 25. Employee Assistance Program for Drug and Alcohol Abuse

The Producers endorse the concept of the IATSE and Basic Crafts Locals for providing an employee assistance program for drug and alcohol abuse problems. Recognizing that such a program is best administered under the auspices of the Motion Picture Industry Health Plan, the Producers, in conjunction with the IATSE and the Basic Crafts Unions hereby recommend to the Board of Trustees of the Motion Picture Industry Health Plan that such an employee assistance program be added to the benefits provided by the Health and Welfare Fund. The Producers and the Union agree that among the resources to be considered by the Health Plan Trustees in implementing this program is the existing program of the Motion Picture and Television Fund, Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous.

An employee who has an alcohol or drug abuse problem which interferes with job performance or attendance will be disciplined in accordance with normal disciplinary procedures. In such cases, before an employee is discharged or disciplinary action is taken, the Producer will give advance notice to the Union representative. As a part of those procedures or as an alternative thereto, such an employee may be referred to counseling through a qualified employee assistance program. Any employee who refuses to accept treatment through such a program or who is again disciplined or discharged pursuant to this section by his employer for unsatisfactory job performance or other misconduct arising out of or resulting from drug or alcohol abuse shall not be entitled to have the second or subsequent disciplinary action(s) reviewed pursuant to the grievance and arbitration procedure. Notwithstanding the participation by any employee in an employee assistance program created pursuant to this Agreement, the Producers and the IATSE, its Local Unions and the Basic Crafts recognize that each employee is and remains responsible for his own satisfactory job performance.