

Central Services

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April 12, 2017

Sen. Mark Hass Chair, Senate Committee on Revenue 900 Court Street Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 2244A - Relating to Greenlight Oregon Labor Rebate Program

Chair Hass and members of the committee:

The City of Eugene supports the extension of the Greenlight Oregon Labor Rebate Program ("GOLR"), which is currently part of House Bill 2244A. The City recognizes the economic benefits of media production in our communities. Oregon site selection incentives are a smart business investment that has an immediate and substantial return on investment, while also supporting thousands of jobs for Oregon workers.

The Oregon Film and Video Office documents the economic impacts of their incentive programs and the effectiveness has been quantified. Per the latest economic development report compiled by PSU's NeRC and the Community Service Center at the University of Oregon, the media sector in Oregon is comprised largely of small businesses and incentivized production work supports 3100 jobs generating an average of \$149million of wages per year to Oregon residents. The current "in-state spend" derived from Oregon's media incentive program now exceeds \$170 million per year.

Unfortunately, Oregon's current incentive is overshadowed by Vancouver BC's provincial and federal rebate programs and other offerings here in the U.S. such as Washington's 30%, New Mexico's 25% and Utah's 20% rebates. Oregon's current program has an annual cap which is often exhausted before the fiscal year even begins.

Thank you for your consideration of our support for HB 2244 A.

Sincerely,

Pam Berrian

Telecommunications and Cable Program Mgr