

TO:

House Committee on Revenue
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

March 21, 2021

Dear House Committee on Revenue,

I'm writing to urge you to **vote YES on HB 3244** to expand the Oregon Production Incentive Fund (OPIF) from \$14 million to \$20 million. This program is critical to keeping our state competitive for film, TV, commercials, and other digital media.

I am a 30 year veteran of the film industry and moved to Oregon in 2014 in an effort to create a better quality of life here. Over the years I had worked on 3 films in the Portland area as a distant hire and fell in love with the area. In the last 6 years I have been able to integrate myself into the local film community and love it. The quality of production we are able to produce here rivals anywhere I have ever worked. I am writing to express my insight as a film worker who has worked in more than 35 states on films over the years. There are many reasons the incentive should not only be extended but also increased.

1/ Oregon has some of the most picturesque scenery in the US. There is a reason so many car companies come here to film their commercials. Urban settings, ocean settings, river settings, farm setting, snowy mountain settings. We have it all here.

2/ The Portland area alone has many resources for crew and equipment, making it very easy to base production here. Very rarely do I need to sub-rent equipment from elsewhere or bring in specialized technicians. This makes it easy for companies to integrate equipment rentals into their budgets in conjunction with the incentive.

3/ Across the board, there are 100's of highly capable technicians that solely make their living working on Films and TV. I love the crews here and I have worked all over.

4/ Having worked on 7 films in Georgia, I can confidently say that the only reason production goes to Georgia is the incentive. If Oregon were to increase the incentive, there is no reason we would not attract more and larger budget productions. The benefits are across the board. More jobs, more income, more spending, more taxes paid on that spending. There is no downside. As it stands now, we seem to attract lower budget productions because of the incentive cap. No studio is going to bring a \$100 mil project with the incentive cap we have now.

I am not an accountant or a lawyer. I won't pretend that I know the ins and outs of the incentive. However, I do know that Oregon CAN compete for more and better productions. Without the incentive they simply will not come here. Without an increase in the incentive, Oregon will only see lower budget productions in the future.

Thank you very much,
Sean Devine

Please **vote YES on HB 3244** to expand OPIF and increase media production jobs and spending in our state.

Regards,

Sean Devine

Big Brown Dog Grip Co. - Portland

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