

I write today in emphatic support of HB 3376. As a taxpaying citizen of Oregon, who confesses to sometimes feeling over-taxed, I join in the outpouring of support for this measure. We Oregonians are justly proud of the film industry in the USA, which has shown a heartening interest in filming in Oregon; and I'd like to call out in particular the contribution to our culture continually made by Salem Cinema and by similar locally-owned venues in Portland and elsewhere in our state.

I enthusiastically support these institutions that I can show off proudly to visitors from New York and California. Relocate your business to Oregon? Certainly - look what we have to offer to you and your employees!!! Young people, should you plan on staying in or returning to Oregon? Certainly. Look at the cultural enrichment, the sense of community, offered by these venues.

Films can be mere entertainment, mere escapism. But they can also enhance our deep understanding of what it is to be human; and the shared experience of theater-going cannot be denied since at least the time of Aristophanes!