

Independent movie theaters are important sources of alternative entertainment, culture and edification instead of big budget Hollywood productions. They often provide thought provoking films and documentaries that would not otherwise be available. Salelm Cinema here in Salem has provided me a significant outlet for seeing our world in different ways that allow me to understand the issues and interests of our times.

Important concerns:

- ? Unlike many other businesses, movie theaters were totally shutdown for almost a year
- ? Movie theaters were not included in the \$25 million for live performance venues provided last year
- ? Movie theaters have largely been overlooked in COVID relief aid programs
- ? Movie theaters face a difficult recovery including no new film product and capacity restrictions. Theaters will be limited to roughly 25% capacity due to 6' social distancing requirements
- ? Funds are needed to help address fixed costs incurred with the required closure of movie theaters
- ? Movie theaters are incurring costly capital expenses to re-open

Funds provided by this bill would mean a much-needed grant to Oregon theaters including my local independent theater, Salelm Cinema. These funds would help in their recovery from the COVID-19 quarantine. If these funds are not made available recovery for local theaters hangs precariously on the edge of uncertainty.