



House Committee on Economic Recovery and Prosperity
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

February 17, 2021

Dear House Committee on Economic Recovery and Prosperity,

I'm writing to urge you to **vote YES on HB 3010** pertaining to diversity, equity, and inclusion in incentivized Oregon media productions. It's important that the commitment to Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion be reflected in Oregon's policymaking.

I'm a latinx artist, set designer, prop maker and ceramicist. I've worked in this industry as a multimedia artist for the past 3 or so years. I've worked on short films such as "See Me", which was in collaboration with Artists Repertory Theater and the talented director Dawn Jones Redstone and another titled, "A Kaddish for Bernie Madoff", directed by Alicia J Rose and written by Alicia Jo Rabbins. I've been on commercial sets for Swift agency and more recently Bent Image Lab, shooting stop motion work for the Oregon Lotto. I've also helped to create sets for multiple music videos with artists who live in town like Amenta Abioto and others who live abroad.

I've been lucky to be surrounded by Black, Latinx, Non-binary, Indigenous and Asian filmmakers and Crew members while starting out my career. One of the first music videos I was ever part of was created by a truly diverse crew and it showed me the importance of having multiple perspectives from different cultural backgrounds on set. We need to be fostering this within our creative industries in Oregon and in the world at large.

However, the issue isn't just about diverse crews and talent, it's also about power. Power to hire, power to choose which stories are told, and power to create equity within a system and culture that has systematically left out people of color. By signing this bill, you are helping to create more opportunities for people who haven't had a fair chance at success within this industry and when you do this, you create more chances for diverse leadership in powerful roles, which is crucial to a creative and successful future for the entire film industry.

Please **vote YES on HB 3010** to encourage diversity, equity, and inclusion in our local production industry. I look forward to witnessing the change that comes about when this bill passes!

Regards,

Gabi Villaseñor

Set Designer, Production designer, Multimedia Artist

Mixed Needs

Portland, OR