

February 4, 2022

Dear Chair Lively and Members of the Committee,

My name is Darren Demetre and I am an Oregon Producer and Production manager that has worked on many projects in the State such as “The Burning Plain”, “Lean on Pete”, “Everything Sucks” and most recently “The Waterman”.

I am a huge advocate of creating programs that the COF would support. In my work in other states such as Georgia, I found that all crew members we had work on our show were enthusiastic and eager to learn and grow in the industry. It provided them the opportunity to see what amazing jobs and careers could be available to them outside of the normal path of higher education or a trade.

Creating new job opportunities for those that would not normally have that option is a crucial part of growing a diverse and skilled workforce. Gone are the days of passing on a trade in this industry. Outreach and the support of the state to incentivize productions to take a chance and work with the community to help create a vibrant workforce will be critical to help insure the workforce in Oregon continues to expand to help support the amazing opportunities this industry offers.

Sincerely,

Darren Demetre