

Hello,

I am a member of IATSE 488 and I make my living in the state of Oregon working in the film industry as a set dresser, carpenter, and greensperson. While we are a small film union in comparison, I believe wholeheartedly that we are both mighty and talented and have the power to create any film or TV project that comes our way. I couldn't overstate how often I've heard our LA bosses tell my crew and I how Portland is hands down the best crew they've ever worked with.

I also believe in the positive economic trickle effect of our industry, and see it firsthand not only in Portland, but in the smaller towns and cities throughout our state. Our mountains, beaches, deserts, parks, and rivers offer an array of eclectic and beautiful shooting locations. And shooting at or near each of those natural wonders requires a large shooting crew to come and stay "on location." This means dozens of hotel rooms full of individuals with cash in their pockets ready to spend at the local restaurants, bars, cafes, shops, etc. This means production often hiring a local company to cater; I worked in Pacific City in the winter, and our movie literally paid a restaurant that would otherwise be closed during this time to feed us both breakfast and lunch for an entire month. Our trucks and personal vehicles fill up at their gas stations. We buy food at their grocery stores. We take the local tours on days off. The list goes on.

And this not only occurs in the small town, but in the cities as well. Last year, we shot a \$100 million dollar TV show in the city of Portland. This kept an incredibly large crew working from six to nine months, spending money along the way. Because of this project and a handful of others, I managed to work the entire year of 2024, doing a job that I love and making a comfortable wage at it. This also means I didn't have to collect unemployment once the entire year.

Simply said, the filmworkers in Portland and the state of Oregon are very good at what they do. There is not enough work to keep bad seeds around. If you aren't good at what you do, you will not get hired again. That said, we are never afraid of any project that comes our way because we know we will get it done, no questions asked.

I'm imploring congress to increase our film incentive, to keep work coming that both brings pride to and showcases this amazing state. The competition is fierce, but we aren't afraid. Let's keep rolling and show the world what we're capable of.

Sincerely,
Matt Lask