

February 13<sup>th</sup> 2025

Good morning,

I am writing in support of HB3329. I work in the film industry in Oregon as Location Manager and Location Scout. I am one of the first people contacted in the State by outside TV and Feature Film Productions when they are considering Oregon as a filming location.

I was contacted in January 2024 by the Executive Producers of a TV Series called “Criminal” for Amazon Prime. They were looking for a city to set as the backdrop for their fictional series. Portland was one of 4 cities across the United States they were looking at, including Boston, Chicago and Los Angeles. They flew to Portland in January where I greeted them and we toured locations I thought would work for the show.

I am elated that they chose Portland for the show, and I became the Location Manager for the series. My responsibilities include working with the Director to find locations for the show, maintaining the department budget and working with City Officials for Permitting.

The series filmed in Oregon for 5 ½ months. Over that duration, my locations department budget alone was 8.5 million dollars. This money was spent on renting vacant storefronts from property owners in Downtown Portland, an area struggling to rebound from the Pandemic. We hired local vendors to set up tents, clean filming locations and provide portable restrooms. Specifically, 1.5 million dollars of my budget went to hiring security staff, local folks here in town hired to keep an eye on our equipment.

In one 4-day period alone, my department spent \$30,000 renting 14 active and vacant storefronts in Old Town, revitalizing this economically depressed area.

I’ve seen how this influx of money for Production changes the lives of not just the people working in the industry, but rather our broader community. This is the primary reason why I continue this work in Portland, Oregon and not somewhere else in the country. The economic benefits are staggering, and I owe it to my hometown.

Feel free to contact me anytime if you’d like to hear more about my experience or have questions.

My best,

Katie Rasmussen  
Location Manager