

DICKY DAHL

PRODUCTION SOUND RECORDIST

PORTLAND, OR

My name is Dicky Dahl and I have lived in Portland and worked in the video production field in one capacity or another for over 20 years now. I worked for several years as a one-man-band, doing everything from camera and sound to editing. I then started and operated a video production company with a couple of partners for several years, producing video advertising from conception to delivery for various clients. And now, for the past ten years, I have worked primarily as a location sound recordist, capturing sound for commercials, corporate video, documentaries and narrative film for a wide variety of clients, from independent filmmakers to corporations like Nike and Wells Fargo to premium streaming outlets like HBO MAX, Netflix and Paramount, PBS, and non-profits such as Head Start. Freelancing by its nature means navigating peaks and valleys in the abundance of work. This is always a challenge. But up until a couple of years ago I found enough work to earn a living wage and to help support my family. These last two years, however, have been hard. So hard that I'm being forced to consider transitioning to another career, which is daunting at 55-years-old and after so many years in this field. But between the strikes in Hollywood and the decrease in the number of bigger TV and film productions coming to shoot in the area, opportunities have cratered. I love what I do. I love the comradery of working together with a crew to make an ad or a show or film the absolute best it can be. And I enjoy meeting new people all the time and learning a little bit about a lot of different facets of our community. But I'm afraid this career is becoming too unreliable as a source of income in our state. I think we are in dire need of an injection of investment and hope. This is why I support Bill HB3329 and an \$8 million increase to Oregon's film incentive program. Thank you.