



February 16, 2025

House Committee on Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade

RE: Support for HB 3329 - Increase Oregon Production Investment Fund (OPIF)

Dear House Committee,

I've written several letters urging you to vote YES on House Bills to expand the Oregon Production Investment Fund (OPIF), but none like this one.

I am the rentals manager for Koerner Camera Systems, a local, family-owned company that provides motion picture equipment to feature films, commercials, television, and streaming shows filmed in Oregon and the PNW. The past few years have been particularly challenging for me. In December of 2022, I was diagnosed with Stage 3 Undifferentiated Pleomorphic Sarcoma in my chest wall. In simpler terms: bad news cancer.

When I received the diagnosis, I was devastated, scared, and uncertain about how I would manage. I had just purchased a house, adopted a high-energy puppy, and was facing extensive surgeries and chemotherapy that would keep me in the hospital for weeks at a time. How would I get through this?

But our local film community—strong, supportive, creative, and resilient—immediately found ways to rally around me. People organized fundraisers, brought meals, helped care for my dog, and my boss generously allowed me to take as much sick time as I needed without losing pay. I'm not sure I could have made it through without this support. Today, I am cancer-free, and I'm forever grateful for that sense of community.

This is what it means to be part of a thriving local industry.

Unfortunately, we are now at a crossroads. Productions are increasingly moving overseas or to other states with higher financial incentives. California is set to more than double its film tax credit program, and studios are following the money. If we don't act quickly to retain productions here, we risk losing everything we've built. Families of film workers are already moving away. In fact, Koerner Camera Systems just had to lay off three of our eleven employees and sell off a portion of our inventory—something that has never happened before.

I grew up in Oregon, and I have a deep love for this state. I returned home to build my career in Oregon's growing film industry, and I want to stay here—along with so many of my friends and colleagues. For us to continue pursuing this work, we must invest in Oregon by attracting and retaining large-scale productions.

Please vote YES on HB3329 to protect and grow our industry and our future here in Oregon.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sally Spaderna", is written over a thin horizontal line.

Sally Spaderna