

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Kevin Findtner and I am a Location Manager for film and media projects in the Portland Metro area. I am writing to voice my support for increasing the total tax credits for film production in the state. I'm a native Oregonian, born in Eugene and a graduate of the University of Oregon. I began working in the Oregon film industry in 2011. I have been employed in various jobs and departments within the industry including Production, Transportation, and Locations. I have worked on a wide variety of projects over my career including Television, Feature Films, Music videos, Photo Shoots, and Commercials. Finding my way in this industry and the union wages it supplies has led to financial security for me and my family that I would not have thought possible a decade ago.

I have also seen first hand the positive financial impact a large production can have on workers involved in the industry as well as other individuals and local businesses that are needed to support a wide variety of needs of a full scale film production. The State of Oregon has everything a Production could want with beautiful filming locations and ever growing infrastructure of film equipment and experienced crews. It is important to keep us competitive with other states offering similar tax incentives.

In my capacity as a Location Manager, we deal with a lot of the logistics that are required to service a production. We always look to use local vendors first. We need these things for every day of filming, and often each day is a new place. A large scale television production can film for 6-9 months 5 days a week. The impact on the local economies we work in is substantial.

Here are some specific examples of how we spend money locally:

- Portable Restrooms for crew, background actors, and Security. And a company to service these restrooms.
- A local security company to watch filming equipment. Usually 24/7 for the run of the show.
- Large Tents, tables, chairs, lights, heaters/Air conditioning, generators to provide a place for the film crew to eat. Smaller tents + Equipment for other needs such as a holding area for Background actors. We pay for set up, delivery, and removal of this for every filming location it is needed.
- Garbage cans/Dumpsters for each catering space and filming location. Delivery, service, removal.
- Location protection, such as floor protection or grass protection placed in advance of filming activity.
- Cleaning crews and Yard maintenance crews to restore filming locations as needed.
- Flagging crews to assist with traffic control.
- City/County/State Police to assist with traffic control as required.
- Road Work Signs. Sometimes Custom made to fit the specific needs of a location.
- Unique Crew directional maps and schematics.
- Directional signs for crew.
- Safety equipment such as large Wacker lights, smaller work lights, safety vests, flashlights, reflective equipment, fire safety, water safety. Often rented locally as needed.

-Construction companies to help with a wide variety of production needs. Anywhere from ensuring the safety of a filming location for the film crew by building a railing or making something structurally sound, repairing or altering areas of a filming location, or building roads for production to access a remote location.

-Hiring companies to test areas of a filming location, such as air quality, water quality, lead paint, structural integrity, etc. And then a company to perform mitigation of these results as needed.

-Parking. Lots of parking. Oftentimes a mix of permitted public parking and private property. it's not uncommon to need to park cars numbering in the hundreds. There are also a large number of Trucks and Trailers that need to be parked every day as well.

-Filming locations and support spaces. Oftentimes while filming, the nature of the scene will require us to branch out to additional properties with filming equipment, such as camera placements, electrical cable, background actors, light placements, etc. At times a whole neighborhood can be enlisted to create the perfect scene, especially with a period specific production. Every property the production sets foot on or requests something of is typically under contract and paid compensation.

-Heat/AC for filming locations and support spaces.

-Permits for filming/events/parking/traffic control/Hydrant use as required by each jurisdiction.

Thank you for your consideration and I hope you will support the proposed increase. Many Oregon workers and companies depend on a thriving film industry.

Kevin Findtner