

Submitter: Ben Bach

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3329

Hello, my name is Ben Bach. I have been working in the camera and lighting department in Oregon since 2010. The first few years here, the future of the media industry looked bright- we always had at least one show in town (often more than that simultaneously), and the creative agencies based here were shooting their commercials in the state and winning awards for them. And while these things sound romantic, what this really meant for the people in Oregon was jobs. It meant the ability to pay their bills and put food on the table for their families. It meant putting that money they earned back into the local economy. In the early years of working in the film industry here, I felt much more comfortable taking my family out to a food pod on a Friday night or spending money on a hotel at the coast for the weekend.

Nowadays we're lucky if there is one show here in a single calendar year. Film industry folks have either left the state for greener pastures, or have been forced to tighten their belts in an increasingly competitive landscape that offers less frequent work and lowered rates.

The economy in Oregon is on a downturn. Intel and Nike are laying off significant numbers of their workers and restaurants are closing. Helping bring more work and money into the state with this increased tax incentive could be a bright spot for our community at large.

Please consider increasing the tax incentive and bringing more money and jobs to the state of Oregon. It doesn't just help those of us who work in film- it helps our entire community.

Thank you very much,

-Ben Bach