



**TRAINING HOMELESS AND MARGINALIZED YOUTH
TO BE THE DIRECTORS OF THEIR OWN FILMS AND LIVES**

February 17th, 2025

Dear Committee,

"I look back at my time being homeless and I'm done with looking at it as traumatic. Now it's art."

-Violet Clyne, Outside the Frame participant and 2024 Selig Emerging Filmmaker Award winner.

I am writing in support of HB3329.

I am the Executive Director of Outside the Frame, a homegrown organization that provides homeless and marginalized youth a creative outlet, job skills and a sense of dignity and possibility through filmmaking. Outside the Frame provides year round workshops and production services in the Tri-County area, and hosts workshops in our studio at Portland's Union Station to 100+ youth per year. Program participants are typically 16-30 years old and houseless or housing insecure.

We provide educational and vocational training that is not just free, but includes numerous paid opportunities. Through the Oregon Media Pathways program, we have been identifying, training and helping place youth on professional film sets in Oregon. Trained to work in an industry notorious for its lack of diversity, unhoused youth secure well-paying jobs while breaking class barriers to housing, education, health, and well-being. Former program participants have gone on to work for Hulu, Netflix, HBO, and Nike, and started independent organizations and businesses.

The vocational training and subsequent transition off the streets is possible thanks to the OPIF incentive program. Young people who were previously receiving public assistance to survive are making a living in the film industry.

The need out there is growing. Increasing the OPIF incentive program will help young people get off the streets and rejoin society.

Sincerely,

Nili Yosha
Executive Director
Outside the Frame | nili@otfpdx.org