

Submitter: Mark Hoffman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On  
Transportation and Economic Development

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5024

Dear Legislators,

My name is Mark Hoffman, and I'm writing in support of bill HB 5024 and the Oregon Film Office. I am a film director and producer and live with my family in Portland. Because of the support that the Oregon Film Office provides, I along with a growing number of other filmmakers are able to make Oregon and Portland home for ourselves and our families. For a state of its population, Oregon has an incredibly strong and growing film community. With the immense changes that are happening in the media industries and the dislocation of historical hubs such as Los Angeles and New York, there is a huge amount of economic potential for productions to base themselves in other nearby states. Oregon, with its incredible diversity of locations, and Portland, with its artistic and cultural offerings, makes for a thriving and growing film production hub. The existence and support of Oregon Film Office makes our area even more enticing for films to be made here.

The wonderful and challenging thing about film as an art form is its collaborative nature. It requires lots of people to get a film made - camera crews, lighting crews, wardrobe, make up, production design, and all manner of other production. Then there is the entire post side with music, sound, and picture finishing. All these people along with the business ecosystems that support them help make Portland and Oregon, a rich creative hub. I am currently finishing an independent film project that was truly made locally. It will have been completely developed, shot, and finished here in Portland. That's possible in very few places outside of NY, Atlanta, or LA, without the support of the Oregon Film Office it would have been impossible to do.

In the last few years, during a challenging time in the film industry, Portland and Oregon have bucked the trend, and seen a marked increase in the number of outside film projects coming here and locally originating independent films. I strongly state my support for measure HB 5024 and continuing to make Oregon a special place to make films and a leader in future of our creative industry.