

Co-Chairs Woods and Gomberg and members of the committee:

I am writing to ask for a favorable recommendation on HB5024, and in support of continued and increased funding for the Oregon Film Office. Tim Williams and his team are vitally important to upholding the entirety of Oregon's film industry. As a member of the film community in Oregon for nearly two decades, I can attest to its value to our industry, to our state and to working Oregonians.

Having a designated, state-funded office to publicize our state as a good location for film, not only for the scenery but also for the film-adjacent professions, is worth its weight in gold. Due to Tim and his team's continued hard work and dedication to this industry, Oregon is not just a contender with other large film markets in the US – it is a desired destination for projects to film in. Oregon Film also provides expert guidance about incentives, permits and any number of administrative hurdles that out of state producers must leap over to make their projects here.

In addition to promoting production here and generating out-of-state contributions to state taxes, the Film Office also has developed, administered and expanded the Oregon Film Trail, a first of its kind in the nation tourism economic driver capturing revenue and data from Film Tourism.

Not least among all the other benefits the Film Office provides is its partnership with Outside the Frame, enabling the placement of more than 50 paid candidates onto the various sets and studios in Oregon. The partnership provides career-launching opportunities to individuals who are often excluded from the entertainment industry.

I ask for your votes for a favorable recommendation on HB5024.

All the best,

Blaine Palmer  
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