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March 21, 2025

House Committee on Revenue Oregon State Legislature 900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301

Subject: A Filmmaker's Plea-Why HB 3329 Matters

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

I came to this country as an immigrant, carrying with me not just dreams but stories—stories of identity, resilience, and belonging. As a gay Asian filmmaker, I know what it means to feel unseen, to search for a place where my voice matters. Filmmaking has given me that place, but without Oregon's film incentives, I wouldn't be where I am today. That's why I urge you to support HB 3329. This bill isn't just about economic incentives; it's about giving independent filmmakers like me the chance to tell stories that deserve to be heard.

I built my production company, No Sunrise Wasted, right here in Oregon because I believe in the power of this state—not just its landscapes but its people. My films, which have been showcased on airlines, PBS, and Starz, have traveled far beyond our borders, yet they remain deeply rooted in the spirit of Oregon. They reflect voices that are too often overlooked—immigrants, LGBTQ+ individuals, and underrepresented communities.

But making these films isn't easy. Unlike big Hollywood productions, independent filmmakers don't have access to endless resources. Every project is a fight to be seen, a fight to be funded. The Oregon Production Investment Fund is one of the few tools that allows filmmakers like me to keep our work here, hiring local talent, renting from local businesses, and putting money back into our state's economy. This rebate isn't a handout—it's an investment in Oregon's creative future.

Without this support, stories like mine will be the first to disappear. And when those stories disappear, so does the representation, the culture, and the economic ripple effect that comes with them. This industry isn't just about entertainment; it's about jobs, small businesses, and keeping Oregon a place where artists don't have to leave to succeed.

I didn't come here just to dream—I came here to build. And I want to continue building in Oregon. Please pass HB 3329 and help ensure that filmmakers like me can keep telling stories that matter. Stories that start here, but inspire the world.

Thank you for your time, your consideration, and your belief in the power of storytelling. I would love the opportunity to share more about how this program has directly impacted my work and the lives of those I employ.

With gratitude,

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Devin Fei-Fan Tau Director | Producer No Sunrise Wasted