

To whom it may concern,

My name is Ian Miller and I'm an associate editor at Blue Chalk Media, a production company located in Portland, OR. We specialize in non-fiction story telling, which includes making documentaries about important subjects like incarcerated firefighters who combat the annual wildfires on the West Coast (*Firebreak*); the initiatives taken to get the planet's carbon emissions to net zero (*Solving for Zero*); or the significance of early childhood development (*The Early Years, coming soon*).

These projects (among the many others we do) are fueled by the passion of myself and the incredible people I work with. It's a dream for us to be able to tell these meaningful stories as our careers. Unfortunately, the film industry in Oregon has been struggling the past few years. The pandemic and several other factors have led to many of those employed in this industry to not be able to make a comfortable living. Video creation is often undervalued and leaves many to have to undercharge for their work in order to secure any work at all. I am a part of a monthly editors' meetup in Portland and can confirm that most of the people involved in the group are also struggling with this issue.

The film incentive program would help fund the work and lives of the people who create projects that bring joy, education, entertainment, and creativity to those around them. Most people regularly watch videos in some form, whether that be films, online videos, advertisements, educational content, etc. Investing in the film industry is investing in the community that surrounds them as well. It would mean that people like me could continue with this career path without having to worry about finding a new job to sustain themselves.

This work is important and well enjoyed. I urge Oregon to continue to invest in their film industry so that those involved can make a liveable wage and continue the creation of these important projects.

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
Ian Miller