

Submitter: Rose Harwood
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Tax Expenditures
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB120

My name is Rose Harwood, and I am a fourth-generation Oregonian based in Ashland.

After graduating from the University of Southern California with my BFA in 2005, I lived and worked in NYC for 14 years. Yes, I am significantly older than I look. I consider myself lucky to be able to continue auditioning and working as an actor. I am also grateful to have a vested pension thanks to being a proud member of the Screen Actors Guild for 15 years. That said, my regular income comes from project management work in independent film, not acting.

In 2022 I decided to move back to Oregon to be closer to family and to improve my quality of life. I erroneously assumed that this meant I would likely be giving up much or all of my work in the entertainment industry. To my surprise, after securing a regional Pacific Northwest agent, and thanks to the plethora of independent films continuously shooting in Oregon, I soon found myself auditioning much more frequently than my friends in larger markets. Oregon is much busier than most states in film production right now.

Additionally, I connected with my current employers, Bruce Campbell, and Ida Gearon, thanks to Film Southern Oregon. Soon after being employed by Campbell and Gearon on their self-funded independent film in 2024, I quickly proved my value by applying for and helping Campbell and Gearon secure an incentive from the Oregon Film Office. This led to my promotion to Associate Producer on the project and my now indefinite employment with Campbell and Gearon as we finish the current film, prepare to make the rounds at film festivals, and plan future films for production in southern Oregon.

I have regular employment because of the film incentive offered in our state. This incentive and the high number of productions in Oregon also help me regularly audition for acting work. The incentive is key as I develop my own projects as a screenwriter and producer. Most importantly, the incentive has enabled me to stay involved with the entertainment industry after moving back to Oregon.

Moving home to Ashland was the best choice I could have made, both personally and professionally. Thank you for your past and continued support of the Oregon Film Incentive. It has made a massive difference for me.

Thank you.