

# Blaine Palmer

SAG-AFTRA

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Chairs Meek and Nathanson, Nguyen, Vice-Chairs Boquist, Walters and Reschke, and members of the committee,

I'm writing to urge you to **include an increase to OPIF of \$8M as part of SB120.**

You can find at the link below my signature the ECONorthwest study of the economic impact of Oregon's visual media industry. Because they are a careful, independent, impartial research firm, they buried the lede. You can find it on page 18, but I'll highlight it here:

**Oregon state government got back 177 percent of every dollar state government spent on film and video production incentives.**

**ECONorthwest**  
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## **Estimated one-year state income tax ROI arising from film and video incentives**

In FY2023, Oregon Film provided \$22.47 million in incentives that attracted productions to Oregon. Because of these incentives, Oregon attracted about \$208 million in direct production spending of which \$140 million was spent on payrolls for Oregonians. We estimated the total economic contributions from these productions and from those, the personal and business income taxes received in FY2023 by the state of Oregon. We estimated from this that Oregon state government got back 177 percent of every dollar state government spent on film and video production incentives.

Beyond the economic benefits to the state, this incentive helps Oregonians do the work we love so much. I began doing improvisational comedy and acting in theater back in the 80s. It was my great joy, and as performers we were all delighted at the end of a night to take home a few dollars from the gate. Some of my friends moved to Los Angeles to make a career in film and television. I took a different path and raised three kids in Oregon — and there's no place like it.

When the kids were out of the house, I returned to acting, and shortly after our state first established the Oregon Production Investment Fund, I got my first role, as one of hundreds of Oregonians working on a film set in Woodburn.

I've relished the chance to bring my acting skills alongside great professionals in various crafts to produce amazing Oregon stories, working with Carrie Brownstein and Aidy Bryant on *Shrill*, Reese Witherspoon in *Wild*, sparring in a scene with Russell Hornsby and Reggie Lee on *Grimm*, and more.

And now, I'm taking home not just a little change; the media production promoted by OPIF creates hundreds of family-wage jobs. In just one year, I earned enough to hire a local contractor to completely remodel our kitchen.

When Oregonians like me are able to do the work we love the most, and then reinvest our wages in our local economies, we fly with our own wings.

Please **include an \$8M increase to OPIF in SB120** to invest in the continued growth of our local production industry.

Regards,



Blaine Palmer

Actor

SAG-AFTRA

Portland, Oregon

[blainepalmer.com](http://blainepalmer.com)

[imdb.me/BlainePalmer](https://www.imdb.com/name/nm1046870/)

ECONorthwest study of the economic impact of Oregon's visual media industry  
<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2025R1/Downloads/PublicTestimonyDocument/128710>