

Submitter: Michelle Damis
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Tax Expenditures
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB120

Dear JCTE - I'm writing this as I'm returning from Tribeca Film Festival in NYC, where several Oregon Made features premiered, as well as another in NJ that won a Jury award and an Audience award for best narrative feature. We could not tell these stories, employ so many Oregonians, and share the magic of Oregon with so many people around the world without our incentive. I was so incredibly proud to represent Oregon in front of the world. To put food on people's plates, to pay people to thrive in their craft, to tell important stories that affect people and have the power to change people's minds is such a humbling thing. The film industry in Oregon is rooted in deep history, and I am writing this to ensure it has a future. This industry also has such an enormous affect on tourism, and it puts such a positive light on our state at a time when the world desperately needs positivity. I am grateful to have purchased a home and put my kids through college in our state - this incentive program is integral to our state and its citizens and this next weekend will welcome a new PSU Master Graduate in Social Work into our state as my youngest graduates with her degree and a focus of working in mental health of students in rural areas. Our power is in the stories we tell and this incentive is critical to storytelling, our state, our residents and our future!