

Testimony of Gary Kout to the Joint Committee on Tax Credits
April 21, 2011

Good morning Co-Chairs Burdick, Bailey, and Berger, members of the committee,

My name is **Gary Kout** and I am an independent producer and the Executive Director of Southern Oregon Film and Television.

I'd like to begin my testimony today by reading parts of a letter written by a couple colleagues in Southern Oregon: <read parts of letter>

Now I'd like to show the committee a list that Southern Oregon Film and Television uses as part of our marketing and networking efforts. It is a comprehensive but not complete list of companies that all saw some economic benefit, be it in the form of rentals, purchases, lodgings, meals, you name it, from several independent films shot in Southern Oregon starting back in 2005, all of which were made possible in part by the OPIF and Greenlight Labor programs.

I'd like to end my testimony telling you how the most recent production came to be in Southern Oregon.

The director, a local businessman living in Ashland, raised the money from an investors group in Los Angeles, who wanted to make the movie down there of course. The budget was only \$100k and they felt the money would go further down there, especially since crew and cast wouldn't have to travel. The director came to me and asked how we could make it work in Southern Oregon. I told him that we have developed a capable crewbase thanks largely to the work made possible by the incentives and could hire an all local crew. I told him we have some of the best actors in the country right here working in the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. And last but not least, by being a part of the iOPIF program, the first actually to do so in Southern Oregon, we'd have funds that we could use to increase our budget and make a better film. The financiers were convinced and indeed, we did those things – hired an all Oregon and mostly Southern Oregon crew, and 16 out of our 20 roles, all local, were filled by actors from the Shakespeare Festival. The movie has finished shooting and we will be releasing it in early 2012.

I submit these as excellent examples of what my friend and colleague Vince Porter said in his statement; that the rebate attracts the types of projects that hire and contract with a larger ratio of local cast, crew, and small businesses, and that they are developing a stronger and more sufficient local industry with additional infrastructure investments being made by local businesses.

I urge you to support HB 2167. Thank you for your time.

Local Companies which have benefited financially from Filming Activities *(just to name a few!)*

Wells Fargo Bank	Touch of Honey	Webfoot Truck & Equipment
Greyhound	Valley Rentals	Smith Fleet Service
Butler Ford/Supersaver	Ashland YMCA	Lithia Body & Paint
Rentals	Merry Maids	Sign Dude
Oce North America	Jackhammer Films	El Torito
Fields Home Improvement	Fiddle Family Inn	The Breadboard
Hughes Brothers	Land Mart	Bards Inn
Jefferson State Plumbing	Printfast	Valley River Inn
United Rentals	Applebee's	Red Robin
Coast Crane Equipment	Dragonfly	Delauney House
Voris Sound	Pasta Piatti	Charter Communications
Jefferson State Pumping	Red Rocks	Ashland Motel
Rogue Disposal	Habanero's	Best Western
Ashland Springs Hotel	Standing Stone	Plaza Hotel
Crane Management	Country Linen Service	Zotz Digital
Commercial Property	Lee's Landscaping	Abbott's Cottages
Management	Miller Paint	KDRV
True Blue Cleaning Service	Spearco	KOBI
Ashland Home Net	Rogue Valley Door	Essence & Image Photo
Bear Creak Lock and Alarm	Southern Oregon Nursery	Amuse
Valley Tel	Stor-A-While	Larks
The Great Outdoors	RVTD	Morning Glory
Noel Leslie Event Services	Dick's Towing	Direct Effect
Gagelt Construction	RVTV	Macaroni's
Designer Signs	Bill's Glass Service	Peerless
Signs, Etc.	World Famous Auto	The Stage Lodge
Bi-Mart	Day Wireless	Hi-Way Lumber
Judy's Ashland Flower Shop	Zoey's Café	Mail Tribune
Azumano Travel	Pacheco Water Truck	Fred Meyer
Oregon Shakespeare	City of Ashland	Lowe's
Festival	City of Medford	Cash & Carry
Timbers Motel	Siskiyou Brew Pub	Crater Lake Rock & Gravel
Rent-A-Center	Ashland Public Schools	Medford Elks
Ramada Inn	City Center Motel	Out Of The Woods
2 nd Street Cottages	Rogue Valley Unitarian	Property Management Center
Les Schwab	Church	7-11
Noah's River Adventures	New Medford Apartments	Mt. Shasta Spring Water
Cascade Airport Shuttle	Jackson Country Parks	Morrow's Used Building
Colortyme	D&D Porta Potti	Supplies
Best Portable Toilets	North Light Properties	Sterling Savings Bank
Advanced Truck Body	U-Haul	Rogue Pacific Lumber
Kerry of Oregon	Budget Truck Rental	Pacific Office Automation
R&J Earth Boring	The Windsor Inn	Fields Home Improvement
Office Depot	Airgas	Costco
Hays Oil Company	Medford Inn	Don's Lock
Red Lion Hotel	Revitalized Trailers	Southern Oregon Historical
Protec Security &	Bob Thomas Automotive	Society
Communications	Coming Attraction Theaters	

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