

Chair Burdick, Chair Bailey, Chair Berger my name is Gretchen Miller and I am here in support of HB2167. I am the co-owner of HIVE-FX, a visual effects and animation company based in Portland.

I would like to share the story of two OPIF related projects that directly benefitted our company and more importantly, added value to our business by elevating the level of our work to attract more out of town clients. In addition, these projects expanded the skill set of our employees and gave them valuable experience on high-end productions.

In this type of business, all we really have to show for is our reel. A year ago our reel was adequate. We had some local commercials and some projects from when we were based in California.

Last year, because of OPIF and the assistance of the Oregon Film Office, we were given the opportunity to bid on an NBC pilot called "A walk in my shoes." We were awarded the work and given the opportunity to show outside production companies that they don't have to go LA for high quality work. As you can guess, we were able to add those shots to our reel, which in turn led us to be considered for the latest NBC pilot, GRIMM.

Again with the support of the Oregon Film Office we were given the opportunity to provide a test to NBC to show that they could trust a Portland based company to do visual effects. Now, we are in the middle of 25 Visual Effects shots for the GRIMM pilot. Because of this, we've been able to purchase more computers and and hire 8 additional employees. All of this would not have been possible without the continuation of the OPIF programs.

Once we complete GRIMM we can expand our client base and share a reel that has gone from adequate to excellent.

I urge you all to support House Bill 2167. This is a very exciting time to be a part of a thriving community of media professionals and with your support it can only get better.

Thank you

