

From: [Sen Burdick](#)
To: [LRO](#)
Subject: FW: OPIF
Date: Friday, June 10, 2011 11:21:29 AM

Kate Grosswiler
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From: Roland Sonnenburg [<mailto:roland@talentedanimals.com>]
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2011 1:22 PM
To: Sen Burdick
Subject: OPIF

Dear Senator Burdick,

I am writing to urge you to fund the Oregon Production Incentive Fund at the \$12M proposed by the Governor.

I realize times are tough and finding the money to fund such programs is difficult; however, it is unmistakably clear over the past few years that each dollar spent attracting film projects to Oregon is repaid several times over. In lean times it is all the more important to invest wisely, and a program that has a positive, significant, and immediate return on investment and also grows a green, relatively recession-proof industry is an authentically good investment for Oregon to make. This should be a no-brainer—here is a place you can allocate money and get back more than you spend...

In addition to making clear fiscal sense, the OPIF program is vital to maintaining the careers of hundreds of Oregonians. If we do not attract films to this state, many people will be unemployed or forced to leave the state. I am a resident of rural Polk County, and run a successful business here employing, at various times, between 2 and 20 Oregonians, and my livelihood in Oregon is directly linked to how many film projects come to Oregon. We spent much of yesterday having a business meeting to discuss relocating our business and home to another state if the film incentive program is reduced.

Even at the current level, I have spoken to several producers in the past two years who wanted to bring their projects and their millions of dollars to Oregon, but there was simply no incentive money left, and so they went to other states where incentive programs were able to help them. These were real, tangible losses of significant revenue in our state, and we cannot afford to keep losing huge projects because our incentive program is so much smaller than other states.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration!

Warmly,

Roland Sonnenburg
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