STUDIO   MECHANICS   OF   THE   PACIFIC   NORTHWEST

International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, Moving Picture Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts of the United States and Canada

Chairman Beyer and Members of the Committee:

My name is Charles Carlsen. I am the Oregon representative of IATSE Local 488, the film and video union of the Pacific Northwest. I have been the Business Agent since our inception in 1992. I am here in favor of Senate Bill 836.

At the time we formed, it was my job to determine if the crafts represented by our organization would need state licenses and certifications. Three crafts were determined to be exempt.

Our construction coordinators did not need contractor licenses as the scenery is temporary.

The electricians did not need electrical licenses as the equipment utilized is plugged and temporary- the same as table lamps and vacuum cleaners.

The hair stylists and make up technicians did not need licenses as they do not provide services to the public and their work is temporary.

While the rest have remained true, in 2012 a revision to the codes, ORS 690.025 has the theatrical exemption in doubt.

The change revolves around compensation.

While I maintain that our artists are not compensated, because the recipients of their services do pay for the service, the Policy Analyst for Oregon Health Licensing Agency disagrees. They have ruled that employer compensation, regardless of the nature of the work, removes the exemption for photography and theater.

The fact that the make-up and hair changes are temporary- on for 5 minutes or five hours, does not matter.

The fact that our artists do not provide services to the general public does not matter.

What does matter is Senate Bill 836 clarifies our exemption and puts Oregon back in line with every other state in recognition of the nature of our work.

Please vote for passage of Senate Bill 836.

Thank you,
Charles A. Carlsen
Business Agent, IATSE Local 488