

12 March 2015

Oregon House of Representatives

Re: Support for HB2072

Dear Representatives,

I am writing to urge you to support and vote for HB2072. Increasing the tax credits available for film production is directly and unequivocally good for Oregon. Each dollar allocated to film production returns more than a dollar to the Oregon economy—this Bill is a simple way to increase employment and revenue in the state, support a green industry that has proven itself to be good for the state, and present Oregon on-screen which increases tourism and encourages other industries to come to our state.

Last year Talented Animals provided animals to many productions and poured nearly \$100K into the Oregon economy, virtually all of it from the film industry. And it could have been so much more if the incentive program were larger.

We received many, many emails, calls and letters from young people around the world looking to come work for us, and we almost always sent them to California because there is just not enough work in Oregon...

We give presentations to several classes at Oregon State University, not to mention several camps and summer programs, and we talk about the wonderful career of training animals for film. At the end of each of these, one of the first questions we always get is, "Can we come work for you, and if not what path can we take to do what you do?" And our first answer is almost always that they will have to leave Oregon if they want to build a career.

Even more directly, we talk to hundreds of productions every year, many of which are filming outside of Oregon, and we usually try at least a couple of times, to get them to consider Oregon. I can hardly begin to express how many of these productions immediately answer that they considered Oregon, but they called and all the incentive money is already depleted so they, and their millions of dollars, are headed to Canada, NM, LA, GA, or someplace else with an incentive program with higher caps.

We all rejoice when we hear that "*Grimm*" has been renewed, or "*Librarians*"! But we are also a little sad, knowing that so many other productions will now not come to our state because there is so little incentive money available. Let's fix that—let's pass HB2072 and grow film production in Oregon. Good for the film industry; good for those of us who work in and around the film industry, and good for all Oregonians who will benefit from the dollars that flow into the state!

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Warmest regards,

Roland Sonnenburg