

# Legislative Briefing 2015: HB 2072 & 2898

## The Oregon Production Investment Fund

**OREGON  
FILM**



**Summary:** HB 2072 increases the annual allocation of Oregon Production Investment Fund (OPIF) tax credits to \$20million annually and makes adjustments to the local filmmaker program. HB 2898 makes further adjustment to the project budget cap for the local filmmaker program.

**Film and Television Industry at an All-Time High** - In 2013 and 2014, the OPIF resulted in over \$240million of direct spend by film and Television Projects in the state. The total amount of OPIF tax credits allocated over these two years was \$18million. This activity is in spite of the fact that OPIF remains one of the lower ranking film incentive programs in the United States.

### Projects produced in Oregon in 2011-2012 included:

- “The Librarians” Season 1 (TNT Series)
- “Grimm” Seasons 3 & 4 (NBC Series)
- “Portlandia” Seasons 4 & 5 (Independent Film Channel Series, Emmy nominated)
- “Wild” Feature Film (Fox Searchlight, Academy Award nominated)
- “Green Room” (feature film shot in Astoria & Portland)
- “Brothers in Law” (feature film shot in Klamath Falls)
- “Black Road” (feature film shot in Southern Oregon)
- “The Boxtrolls” (Academy Award Nominee for best Animated Feature)
- “Polariffic” – (Hallmark Channel Animated Holiday Special, Emmy nominated)
- “Rollercoaster Tycoon” & “World Series of Poker” – (Interactive Games, Pipeworks, Eugene)

**Media Production Hires Local and Pays a Living Wage** - The vast majority (75%-95%) of the cast and crew on these projects are local hires with affiliations with guilds and unions that provide health and pension benefits. A full year’s benefits are paid out to an employee with just six months of work. The productions also regularly do business with over a thousand local small businesses, both directly and indirectly.

**Demand for OPIF exceeds Current Supply** - This current wave of projects has pushed the limits of capacity for OPIF. In some cases, we have been successful in negotiating down the rebate amounts per project allowing the current activity to exist. At the current funding level of \$10million, though, it’s not going to be possible to maintain the level of activity in the state any more. There is demand for more projects in Oregon. The Film Office fields 1-2 “ready to go” project inquiries a month. Currently the Film Office is attempting to bring in a television series and two feature films as well as maintaining the funding levels necessary to keep “The Librarians,” “Grimm” and “Portlandia”.

