

HOUSE REVENUE COMMITTEE

HB2072 & HB2898

APRIL 27, 2015

GOOD AFTERNOON CHAIRMAN BARNHART AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE. THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY IN SUPPORT OF HB2072 AND HB2898.

WELCOME TO THE LIBRARY (THE EXTERIOR OF OUR STATE CAPITOL BUILDING PLAYED THE MYTHICAL LIBRARY IN OUR TV SERIES, THE LIBRARIANS).

MY NAME IS JOSE BEHAR, I AM AN OREGON-BASED PRODUCER AND I AM HERE ON BEHALF OF DEAN DEVLIN'S ELECTRIC ENTERTAINMENT AND THE TELEVISION SERIES, *THE LIBRARIANS*.

ELECTRIC ENTERTAINMENT HAS PRODUCED 87 EPISODES OF CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED AND AWARD-WINNING TELEVISION PROGRAMMING. MOST OF THIS PROGRAMMING WAS SHOT HERE IN THE STATE OF OREGON USING OREGON'S INCREDIBLE TALENT.

SO FAR, THE OREGON PRODUCTION FUND HAS ENABLED US TO KEEP OUR PRODUCTION IN OREGON AND BE PART OF ITS THRIVING INTERCONNECTED ECONOMY. OUR PRODUCTIONS HAVE PROVIDED OVER \$120 MILLION DOLLARS OF OREGON SPEND FROM 2009 TO 2014; AND AN ADDITIONAL PROJECTED SPEND OF APPROXIMATELY \$27 MILLION THIS YEAR FOR THE SECOND SEASON OF THE LIBRARIANS.

THIS MEANS APPROXIMATELY 2000 CUMULATIVE JOBS AND THE PROCUREMENT OF SERVICES FROM OVER 400 COMPANIES LOCATED THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF OREGON IN THE SPAN OF FOUR MONTHS. AGAIN, OPIF ENABLES US TO CONTRIBUTE IN THIS WAY.

IN OUR CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO BE PART OF THE GROWTH OF THIS INDUSTRY, ELECTRIC ENTERTAINMENT HAS DONE THE FOLLOWING:

WE HAVE MAINTAINED STATE-OF-THE-ART PRODUCTION STAGES AND HAVE MADE THOSE AVAILABLE TO INDIGENOUS PROJECTS IN BETWEEN SEASONS OF OUR OWN PRODUCTIONS.

WE ARE ALREADY PUTTING INTO PLACE THE PLANS TO OPEN A POST PRODUCTION AND VISUAL EFFECTS STUDIO HERE IN OREGON. WE HAVE LEASED ADDITIONAL STUDIO SPACE AND WILL START WITH 6 VISUAL EFFECTS ARTISTS THAT WILL WORK ON THE LIBRARIANS. SHOULD WE BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE PRODUCTION HERE IN OREGON WITH THE EXPANSION OF OPIF, WE PLAN TO EXPAND FOR SUSEQUENT SEASONS OF LIBRARIANS AND FUTURE FREATURE PROJECTS.

ADDITIONALLY, WE HAVE PARTNERED WITH CLACKAMAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO ESTABLISH A PRODUCTION INTERNSHIP PROGRAM THAT WILL GIVE A SELECT NUMBER OF STUDENTS ACCESS TO WORKING PROFESSIONALS AND HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE TO MEET GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.

WE CONTINUALLY LOOK FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO SHOOT ON LOCATIONS OUTSIDE OF THE PORTLAND METRO AREA. WE HAVE SHOT THROUGHTOUT YAMHILL, CLACKAMAS, MULTNOMAH AND MARION COUNTIES. DURING THE OPENING SEASON OF THE SHOW, WE HAD THE PRIVILEGE MOVED THE COMPANY TO SALEM TO SHOOT ON THE STEP OF THE CAPITOL.

AS A TEAM, WE HAVE ALL ACCOMPLISHED A LOT TOGETHER. WE HAVE MADE SEEN A STEADY AND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH SINCE 2009. HOWEVER, NONE OF THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE INCREMENTAL EXPANSION OF THE PROGRAM.

WE WERE ABLE TO SECURE SEASON 2 OF THE LIBRARIANS IN OREGON, BUT AS OF NOW THERE IS NO FUNDING FOR SEASON 3 NEXT YEAR. AS THE PROGRAM STANDS RIGHT NOW, ELECTRIC ENTERTAINMENT WOULD HAVE TO FIND A NEW PLACE TO SET UP COMPANY FOR THE LIBRARIANS. PLEASE GIVE US THE OPPORTUNITY TO RETURN NEXT YEAR AND TOGETHER, ACCOMPLISH MORE FOR THE PEOPLE OF OREGON.

Incentives: OPIF & iOPIF

