

House Committee on Revenue
Oregon State Legislature.
March 19, 2021

Hello,

I'm writing to urge you to **vote YES on HB3244** pertaining to increasing labor rebates and tax credits for media production.

I am currently a Line Producer/Production Supervisor for working in Stop Motion Animation here in Portland. Prior to this I have been an Independent Film and TV producer for over 20 years. I moved to Oregon (from Australia via England) 8 years ago and am a permanent resident. I have produced feature films, documentaries, and shorts. I have experience with all forms of production from super low budget student/volunteer productions to higher end award winning long form projects, including the Academy Award® winning HARVIE KRUMPET: <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0177707/>

Labor rebates and tax credits for media production are the reason that we have an industry in Oregon that attracts world class talent to the state. Each time a stop motion feature film comes out of this state (Coraline, Paranorman, The Boxtrolls, Kubo and the Two Strings, Missing Link), it is an Academy Award® nominee. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Academy_Award_for_Best_Animated_Feature.

This year, thanks to the support provided by the State of Oregon, there are three stop motion feature films underway in the state. This will cement Oregon as the **undisputed world center of excellence** for this unique and compelling form of Animation. This attracts talent and investment to the state, but it needs to be on-going in order to be effective - particularly for Stop Motion Animation films that are usually years in the planning - and then years in the making.

The company I now work for opened its Portland office in late 2015. The fact that Oregon has incentives was a key factor in choosing Oregon over other states. And it's now that we are producing our first feature with a crew of 150 people. Stop motion feature films take years of planning and require certainty. Anything you can do to support these incentives in the long term will ensure continued success for our industry.

Please **vote YES on HB3244** to extend these critical programs for our local production industry. It supports our livelihood.

Regards,



Melanie Coombs
Producer and Production Supervisor
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