

T. Tamiyasu

IATSE Local 488: Studio Mechanics of the Pacific NW

Portland, Oregon 97202

March 22, 2021

House Committee on Revenue
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

March 19, 2021

Dear House Committee on Revenue,

I'm writing to urge you to **vote YES on HB 3244** to expand the Oregon Production Incentive Fund (OPIF) from \$14 million to \$20 million. This program is critical to keeping our state competitive for film, TV, commercials, and other digital media.

I've worked on everything from MTV animated videos and commercials in the 80's and 90's (Talking Heads, Tears for Fears, Adidas among them) to My Own Private Idaho, Bandits, Elephant, Grimm, Leverage, Librarians, Portlandia, Doc Now, Shrii, Trinkets, and The Waterman more recently; and countless commercials, infomercials, movies of the week, and public broadcasting projects in between. What makes this period in Oregon's film/media picture so promising, as we move forward, is the OPIF and it's ability to expand the film opportunities for our state if it is enlarged to a \$20 million cap. Film industry friends have commented how crucial this had been for their own states, and how losing it (I'm looking at you, Florida) forces film crews to travel, work (and spend their precious production dollars) out of state. Those crew members in Washington, our sister in the Pac NW, find work on Oregon shows as the too-small incentive money dries up quickly up there. Let's **not let this happen in Oregon** -- to keep up the momentum and energy we have worked so hard to achieve, to attract more and diverse projects, to sustain our talented crews and emerging artists and producers, to provide living wages and 'spread the wealth' throughout the region via restaurants, hotels, rental transportation, services, supporting businesses, retailers, and other recipients of full-on, multi-year production company commitments, we need the incentive \$ to send a clear message -- that we are **ready**, willing, and fully capable of surpassing expectations. This bill has proven to have a huge payback (I'll let the producers and accountants give you those numbers, but the generated revenue exceeds 5x what is invested -) and the current need for media content is burgeoning.

Our livelihoods and the future of Oregon film/media growth and sustainability depend on HB 3244's successful passage.

Please **vote YES on HB 3244** to expand OPIF and increase media production jobs and spending in our state.

Regards,

T. J. Tamiyasu

Set Decoration Buyer

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