

**Tom Rinehart**Chief Administrative
Officer

## **Ted Wheeler** *Mayor*

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March 22, 2021

Representative Nancy Nathanson House Revenue Committee 900 Court Street NE, HR A Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Nathanson and Members of the Committee:

The City of Portland supports the expansion of the Oregon Production Incentive Fund (OPIF) from \$14 million to \$20 million. This growth is critical to the attraction of film and television projects that generate local spending and jobs in our state and in Portland.

This small investment telegraphs to the national industry that Oregon can support increased film production, and that the industry's investment is protected by continued public investment. There is a direct relationship between these investments and local spending in the Portland metro area and across the state: for example, the ten film and television projects that were in production in Portland this past year employed more than 1,300 local crewmembers, and local businesses benefitted from an estimated \$150 million in production-related spending at hotels, restaurants, and other retail and professional services at a time when many of these businesses were struggling to survive. Bravo's *Top Chef* alone utilized 7,000 hotel nights, spent more than \$5 million locally, and was the sole tenant of Portland Expo Center for the duration of the production (September- October 2020).

The expansion of the Fund will be the cornerstone of Oregon's continued competitiveness nationally. The film and television industry has been and will continue to be critical to our economic recovery, and we urge your support for HB 3244 to reauthorize these programs. Thank you for consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Tom Rinehart, Chief Administrative Officer, City of Portland Adam Lane, Acting Executive Director, Prosper Portland

