Dear Members of the Committee-

First, I applaud you in your efforts to help small businesses recover in Oregon. We are a great state of independently run businesses and they need our help.

Movie theatres are often the heart of the community in small towns across Oregon. And lucky for us many are small independently operated theaters. And they have been hit hard this past year with the mandatory closures. Of course, protecting Oregonians was essential, but now it's time to support our theaters and keep our small towns thriving.

There are many pressing issues for economic recovery in Oregon, but supporting movie theaters should be on the list. Culture, gathering, sharing helps make cities thrive. I work in the community, I spend money in the community, and the money circulates. It doesn't go off to a big bank in Arkansas at the end of the day.

Invest in Oregon, invest in Oregonians. Support the theaters as part of the economic recovery plan.

Wishing you wisdom and heart in your decisions,

Meredith Schreiber

Salem, Oregon