

April 21, 2021

Movie theaters are at risk; in fact my favorite theater in the whole world, Palace Theatre in Silverton, Oregon closed their doors forever last fall. Me – brokenhearted. I love going to the “movies” and am now supporting more regularly the wonderful Salem Cinema in Salem, Oregon. All theaters need to be supported, and especially now through funding from the Ways and Means Committee.

? Unlike most other businesses, movie theaters experienced a total shutdown for nearly a year

? Movie theaters were not included in the \$25 million that went to live performance venues last year

? Movie theaters have largely been overlooked in the relief aid programs

? Movie theaters face a long road to recovery without new film product and with capacity restrictions. Even with greater capacity allowances (50% and above), theaters will still be limited to roughly 25% capacity due to 6' social distancing requirements

? Funds are desperately needed to help address fixed costs incurred while movie theaters were required to be closed

? Movie theaters have incurred costly capital expenses related to re-opening

I urge the committee to include cinema theaters in their state funding plans.

Sincerely,  
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