

I am writing to support SB 5555 to appropriate funds to independent theaters in Oregon. Salem Cinema has connected me and my family to so many memorable cinematic experiences over the past 20 years that we have lived in Salem, and my heart would be broken if Loretta Miles was unable to continue her mission of showing films that provide a cultural connection to our world. Not only are the films she chooses thought-provoking and beautiful visually, but she also provides an artful venue where her audience can share their film experience. Loretta also furnishes use of the lobby and theaters for area non-profits to raise funds for their organizations.

However, the venue has fixed costs that had to be addressed during the year-long shutdown as well as capacity restrictions when theaters were allowed to be reopened recently. Because movie theaters have not received the same funding relief that live performance venues have, it has been extremely challenging for Loretta to keep Salem Cinema financially viable.

Please help Loretta and the many other independent owners of Oregon movie theaters to keep the magic that they provide to moviegoers like my family, friends, and community supporters. Please vote yes on SB 5555, and support Salem Cinema by buying a ticket for an in-person movie or stream one online via the Salem Cinema website. By the way, Salem Cinema has the best popcorn in the mid-Willamette Valley!