

House Committee on Economic Recovery and Prosperity 900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

February 16, 2021

Dear House Committee on Economic Recovery and Prosperity,

I'm writing to urge you to **vote YES on HB 3010** pertaining to diversity, equity, and inclusion in incentivized Oregon media productions. It's important that the commitment to Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion be reflected in Oregon's policymaking.

I've worked in video production as a freelance video editor since 2012 and in the 360/virtual reality space as a filmmaker since 2016. The majority of my video clients are local, including Multnomah County, Oregon Food Bank, and Friends of the Columbia Gorge. I also participate in a variety of local film communities, including Women in Film PDX, Film Fatales Portland, OMPA, and NW Documentary. Outside of our state, I do my best to connect with the VR community at-large by serving on the Board of Directors of the International Virtual Reality Professionals Association. I want to see diversity upheld as a priority in Oregon media productions because I know it will lead to more innovation and creative success in our state. This will make us stronger economically, and serve as an example to other states that positive change is possible.

Prioritizing diversity, equity, and inclusion will be nothing more than a talking point if we don't take meaningful action to codify these values into our local industry. I have seen agencies *say* they care about moving the needle on this issue for years, but their actions tell a very different story. HB 3010 would be an important step towards creating lasting, positive change in Oregon filmmaking.

Please **vote YES on HB 3010** to encourage diversity, equity, and inclusion in our local production industry. I look forward to witnessing the change that comes about when this bill passes!

Regards,

Rachel Smaldone

Freelance Video Editor + 360/VR Filmmaker, Co-founder, Forever VR

Portland, Oregon