



**TRAINING HOMELESS AND MARGINALIZED YOUTH
TO BE THE DIRECTORS OF THEIR OWN FILMS AND LIVES**

February 8th, 2022

Dear Chair Lively and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to encourage you to support HB4153.

I am the Executive Director and founder of Outside the Frame, a homegrown organization that trains homeless and marginalized youth to be directors of their own films and lives. We provide a creative outlet, job skills and a sense of dignity and possibility through filmmaking.

Through the Oregon Media Pathways program, in collaboration with Oregon Film, IATSE and OMPA, we have been identifying, training and helping place youth on professional film sets in Oregon. This is in addition to providing job opportunities at Outside the Frame. "Many of us here were living on the streets and now we make films. And we work at Outside the Frame as instructors, mentoring youth who are in the same positions we were once in," Jolly Wrapper, one of many program alums working at Outside the Frame this year.

If homeless youth can make films, they can do anything. They are uniquely suited to the life of a professional creative. Young people who were previously receiving public assistance to survive are now making a living in the film industry.

Your small but mighty investment in the Creative Opportunity Fund can transform many young people from a tax liability to taxpayers.

Sincerely,

Nili Yoshida
Executive Director
Outside the Frame | nili@otfpdx.org