

Submitter: Mark Hoffman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3329

To the Legislators,

My name is Mark Hoffman, I am a film director and producer and live with my family in Portland. I was raised in Ashland, Oregon, but lived for long periods in Germany and Los Angeles to build my career as a filmmaker. The smaller but historically very supportive and healthy independent film community in Portland was a major reason for deciding to move back to Oregon and raise my family here.

The wonderful and challenging thing about film as an artform is its team and collaborative nature. It requires lots of people to get a film made - camera crews, lighting crews, wardrobe, make up, production design, and all manner of other production. Then there is also the post side, with music, sound, and picture finishing. All these people along with the business ecosystems that support them help make Portland not just an exciting creative hub but a thriving business hub. I am currently finishing an independent film project that was truly 'local-filmmaking.' It will have been completely developed, shot, and finished here locally. That's possible in very few places outside of NY, Atlanta, or LA. It's because of the unique film ecosystem that Portland has been able to support.

In the last few years, during a very challenging time in the film industry, Portland and Oregon have bucked the trend, and seen a marked increase in the number of film projects, locally originating independent films and award-winning projects coming from out of state and choosing to shoot here for the incredible backdrops, the unique culture, and the film incentives. I strongly state my support for measure HB 3329 and continuing to make Oregon a special place to make films and take a lead in future of filmmaking.