

Dear Members of the Joint Committee on Tax Expenditures,

My name is Dan Eason, and I am writing today in strong support of House Bill 3329 (now SB120), which proposes an \$8 million increase to the cap on Oregon's Film and Video Tax Credit program. I am an Oregon-based filmmaker and media industry worker who has proudly called this state home for over a decade.

Like many others, I moved to Oregon from Los Angeles because of a job opportunity that was made possible by this very tax incentive program. That opportunity allowed me to buy a home, purchase a car, and — most importantly — raise my son in this beautiful state. As a location scout and manager, I have worked on countless film, television, and commercial projects across Oregon, from urban streets to rural coastlines.

Right now, I'm working on a production based at the Oregon Coast, and just recently, the staff at the Kiawanda Community Center told me that the last production filmed there helped save the entire center from closing its doors last year. That is just one example of the profound economic impact of this program. I have personally seen small businesses — coffee shops, hardware stores, retail stores — recover from the struggles of the pandemic because of the money productions have spent in their communities. Productions like *Alma and the Wolf* and Netflix's *The OA* have directly contributed to the survival and success of these local businesses. These productions don't just support Portland — they bring real, immediate, and meaningful economic benefit to communities all across Oregon.

The program works because it's designed to grow responsibly, in step with Oregon's expanding crew base and infrastructure. Last year, 2024, saw a record number of productions in Oregon while many other states struggled to attract the same level of work. We have positive momentum, and producers around the country and the world are starting to take notice. If we don't raise the cap, and we're forced to turn away productions, that momentum will disappear, and the word will spread quickly that Oregon is out of funds to support film and TV productions that provide well paid jobs with pension and healthcare benefits. That would be a missed opportunity — for the state, for our small businesses, and for families like mine who rely on this industry for steady work.

These productions don't take years to show their benefit; the economic impact happens almost immediately. When I'm on a job, I'm the one handing out checks to Oregon residents, to local government offices for permits, to small businesses, to hardware stores, to restaurants, to local crews — all of it circulates through the economy within days or weeks of production start.

This program has kept me living, working, and raising my family in Oregon. Without it, I — and many others — would be forced to seek work elsewhere. I urge you to support this increase in the Oregon Film incentive cap. It's a responsible investment that produces immediate, measurable returns for communities across the entire state.

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Dan Eason

