

CAST IRON

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YES ON SB120: INCREASING THE OREGON PRODUCTION INVESTMENT FUND = HIGH-PAYING JOBS + ROI

Chairs Meek and Nathanson, Nguyen, Vice-Chairs Boquist, Walters, and Reschke, and Members of the Joint Committee on Tax Expenditures,

My name is Lana Veenker. I established my film and television casting company in Portland in 1999, and my staff and I depend heavily on the Oregon Production Investment Fund for our livelihoods.

OPIF not only **keeps thousands of us employed**—from construction workers to electricians, truck drivers, painters, prop makers, costumers, make-up artists, hair stylists, accountants, security guards, IT specialists, editors, camera operators, graphics designers, visual effects specialists, local actors, talent agents, and more—but it enables us to **shine a light on Oregon through film and television, boost tourism, fill Oregon's hotel rooms and restaurants with cast and crew, and utilize local vendors** such as thrift stores, hardware stores, lumber stores, taxi companies, catering, and grip and electric companies.

Film and video production is a **clean, green industry** that offers not only **well-paying, union vocational jobs**, but also the **high-tech jobs of the future** in entertainment, gaming, and VR that we want here in Oregon.

Moreover, according to [ECONorthwest's recent study](#) on the economic impact of Oregon's visual media industry, the **Oregon state government got back 177% (!) of every dollar it spent on film and video production incentives** (see page 18).

But at its current level of \$20M, the funds can quickly get tapped out. The Oregon Film and Video Office works wonders with a modest incentive fund compared to other states, but if we don't at least keep pace with the economy, **Oregon risks losing its momentum and competitive edge that keeps us in the game**. We need to responsibly increase the fund as laid out in SB120, so that the Film Office can continue to attract jobs to our state.

I urge you to vote **YES on SB120** and expand OPIF. You will be helping to create more great jobs for Oregonians, and thanks to our industry's multiplier effect, the ripples will be felt across the state.

Sincerely,



Lana Veenker