



CITY OF

PORTLAND, OREGON

Charlie Hales, Mayor
Amanda Fritz, Commissioner
Nick Fish, Commissioner
Dan Saltzman, Commissioner
Steve Novick, Commissioner

February 4, 2016

Senator Mark Hass, Chair
Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue
900 NE Court Street, HR A
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Hass and Members of the Committee:

We write in favor of SB 1578, which expands cost-effective incentives for Oregon's growing film and video production industry.

The Oregon Production Investment Fund (OPIF) is a crucial investment tool which supports our creative economy and allows Oregon to compete nationally for film and television projects. Given the level of demand for film and television tax credits, raising the cap to \$14 million will result in more out-of-state investments in our local economy. Oregon is a great place to film, with a growing pool of talented artists and professional crew, not to mention stunning vistas and some of the best food in the nation. We can and should grow this industry in Oregon, but we need to strengthen our tax credit program to compete with other states and countries. The OPIF is currently fully utilized, which limits our ability to successfully compete for new film and television productions.

These productions create quality jobs and build Oregon's national and international brand. Since 2007, film and television productions have brought more than \$941 million into our local economy. The City of Portland supports the regional OPIF (rOPIF) amendment to SB 1578 that provides a two-tier rural incentive to encourage large and small productions to film outside the Portland metro area. The proposed rOPIF helps to grow our skilled industry workforce for future productions in Portland and throughout Oregon.

SB 1578 and the rOPIF amendment provide opportunities to create jobs, train our workforce, and support home-grown talent. We urge your support.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Charlie Hales
Mayor

Amanda Fritz
Commissioner

Nick Fish
Commissioner

Dan Saltzman
Commissioner

Steve Novick
Commissioner