Legislative Briefing 2015

The Oregon Production Investment Fund

Summary: The Oregon Production Investment Fund (OPIF) provides refunds generated from the sale of tax credits to film, TV and media producers of up to $10million annually for production in Oregon.

Film and Television Industry at an All-Time High - In 2013 and 2014, the OPIF resulted in over $240million of direct spend by film and Television Projects in the state. The total amount of OPIF tax credits allocated over these two years was $18million. More than 40 different projects took advantage of the OPIF program and Oregon as an iconic creative destination.

Projects produced in Oregon in 2013-2014 included:

- "The Librarians" Season 1 (TNT Series)
- "Grimm" Seasons 3 & 4 (NBC Series)
- "Portlandia" Seasons 4 & 5 (Independent Film Channel Series, Emmy nominated)
- "Wild" Feature Film (Fox Searchlight, Academy Award nominated)
- "The Green Room" (feature film shot in Astoria & Portland)
- "Brothers in Law" (feature film shot in Klamath Falls)
- "Black Road" (feature film shot in Southern Oregon)
- "The Boxtrolls" (Academy Award Nominee for best Animated Feature)
- "Polariffic" – (Hallmark Channel Animated Holiday Special, Emmy nominated)
- "Rollercoaster Tycoon" & "World Series of Poker" – (Interactive Games, Pipeworks, Eugene)

Media Production Hires Local and Pays a Living Wage - The vast majority (75%-95%) of the cast and crew on these projects are local hires with affiliations with guilds and unions that provide health and pension benefits. A full year's benefits are paid out to an employee with just six months of work. The productions also regularly do business with over a thousand local small businesses, both directly and indirectly.

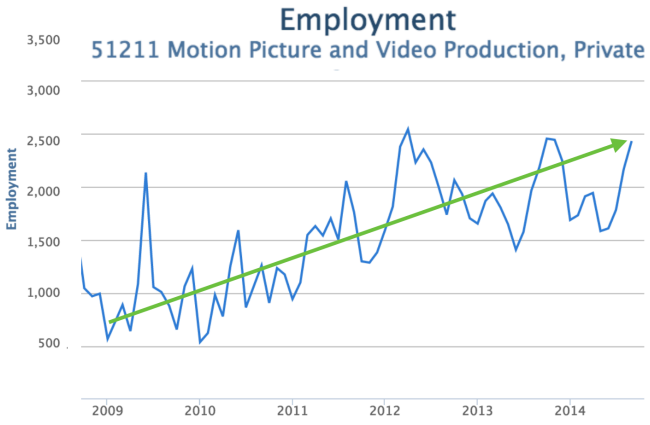
A Growing Economy - The Media Industry in Oregon is growing. This business is a word of mouth business and thanks to the success of past projects and the growth of our local creative workforce, the interest and demand for more production in Oregon is at an all time high. Thanks to all of this activity, there is now the opportunity to not only land more film and television production, but we are being recognized as a player in the ever-changing digital media landscape.

The Indigenous Oregon Production Investment Fund ("iOPIF")

A complimentary program to the OPIF fund is the "indigenous" Oregon Production Investment Fund, or iOPIF. Introduced in 2009, iOPIF is a reserved part of the OPIF fund that solely focuses on Oregon-based projects, producers, companies and creators. Since its inception, iOPIF has helped nearly 60 local projects get to completion and distribution, which has helped establish and grow the national and international reputations of brick & mortar companies in Eugene, Ashland, & Oregon City, and locally created films, TV series, interactive games and documentaries embracing & showcasing the entire state.

Department of Employment

The State Dept. of Employment confirms that Oregon's motion picture and video production industry grew by 69% from September 2009 to September 2014 (the most current data). Nearly 1,000 jobs were added over the five years. Average annual pay for the industry was $43,177 in 2013, and there were 351 business establishments during summer 2014.



The Growth of Game Development in Oregon

During the years 2013 and 2014, interactive game companies were made eligible for the iOPIF program. Several in-state based companies have already utilized the program to gain a competitive edge and to grow their permanent workforce. In the last two years, 11 interactive games have taken advantage of the iOPIF program leading the Electronic Software Association to rank Oregon in the top 10 of all US states in game development.

State	Developer Group Direct Employees	Direct + Indirect Employees	Average Compensation	Economic Contribution to State
California	10,201	63,718	$103,071	$2.78 billion
Texas	3,834	17,878	$101,349	$764.9 million
Washington	2,794	12,833	$99,964	$595.2 million
New York	1,267	8,137	$94,924	$378.5 million
Massachusetts	1,137	4,174	$93,174	$179.6 million
Florida	1,007	4,601	$89,540	$171.5 million
Illinois	877	4,032	$92,453	$158.6 million
Pennsylvania	617	2,142	$87,922	$83.1 million
Oregon	552	2,359	$91,130	$111 million
Colorado	552	2,984	$87,922	$107.1 million

Source: Entertainment Software Assoc.