



JOHN A. KITZHABER, MD
Governor

May 28, 2013

David White
Executive Director
SAG-AFTRA
5757 Wilshire Blvd., 7th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90036-3600

Dear Mr. White:

Oregon has made concerted public policy efforts and investments in order to grow our local industry and expand the utilization of Oregon as a location for television and film.

My most recent budget for 2013-2015 proposed to increase Oregon's Film and Video Tax Credit, as I view this as a growth industry for our state. I take pride in the fact that so many of the jobs produced by this state investment are union jobs.

Given these efforts and Oregon's successes to date, I was surprised to learn recently of SAG-AFTRA's pending action to close the union office in Portland.

I would normally not engage in discussions of internal union operations such as the location of local union offices. However, this situation goes beyond local union operations and is more akin to a local business leaving Oregon: this is an economic development issue. Your union's presence in this state is an economic asset for Oregon, and closing this office is as problematic for Oregon as would be the loss of any business.

Oregon is invested in your industry and your local members. I urge SAG-AFTRA to reconsider its decision leave Oregon without a local office so that we can continue to grow this industry, create good jobs, and increase SAG-AFTRA membership in our state.

Sincerely,

John A. Kitzhaber, M.D.
Governor

DS/smg