

Submitter: Sheila Christensen

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1586

As residents of Hillsboro, we are shocked by the seemingly back-door SB 1586 that apparently violates land use law. What is happening? No hearings, sixth time this issue has been introduced and all prior have been opposed and withdrawn. Who is getting money here?

We would bear the costs of this sprawl. It appears Hillsboro documents shows that no break-even for THIRTY-FOUR YEARS. This bill also would extend tax breaks. Other states are cutting or reassessing tax breaks to these industries. How can we use precious tax dollars for low-job industries that waste energy and natural resources -- we're in a budget crisis.

The bill has a huge loophole that would allow unlimited data centers as long as they are attached to another business. Data center do not produce jobs or tax revenue! Again, who is getting the benefit for this apparent illegal SB 1586 (seems to violate land use law). Lobbyists? Politicians? City officials? It's certainly not residents of Hillsboro or the state of Oregon - we lose in a myriad of ways: tax breaks, low-job industries, destroy natural resources, energy crisis, and the most irreparable, taking irreplaceable farmland, harming agriculture, taking the best soils in the WORLD, Class 1 and Class 2 soils and it is a requirement/essential that we protect them for agricultural uses.

How about the now local public process, decisions such as this have multiple public meetings, hundreds of pages of analysis on the net cost, community consensus on what they think economic development is. NONE OF THAT HAS HAPPENED HERE. The entire process apparently violates Land Use Law. Mayor Pace and Senator Sollman have a lot to answer for, as well as Governor Kotek.

For all the above reasons and more, PLEASE VOTE NO ON SB 1586

cc: Willamette Week
Portland Mercury
Oregonian