

Submitter: Pat Kaczmarek
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1586

My name is Pat Kaczmarek and I'm an Oregonian who opposes SB 1586 because it's important that these lands stay as rural reserves until at least 2065 to protect natural pollinators and provide agricultural lands for local food security.

Hillsboro has had adequate land provided through the Urban Growth Boundary process. Hillsboro made questionable decisions in dedicating a large percentage of that land to data centers that do not provide jobs and are exempt from local taxes. Hillsboro is accountable for making the best use of Urban Growth Boundary lands, and should not be rewarded for poor decision making by being granted more valuable farmland for industrial purposes.

The state is breaking its promise to protect this land until at least 2065. We are in the midst of a Climate Crisis that will strain water resources such as watersheds, wetland habitats, and tributaries. Granting more land to Hillsboro for data centers that use copious amounts of fresh water and scarce energy resources is reckless.

Any benefit of this expansion goes largely to a few property owners looking to sell their land as rezoned industrial land, and to the large out of state corporations that are the only prospective buyers who could afford the cost of land zoned for industry in this area.

Large data centers directly linked to undersea transmission cables have created a national security target in Oregon. Putting all area residents at risk of nuclear or terrorist attacks. We do not need to increase that risk by continuing to build out data centers that do not provide local jobs or contribute in any substantial way to our local communities. I'm asking you to vote no on SB 1586.

Thank you,
Pat Kaczmarek