

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

Please do not pass this bill.

This is likely to increase the cost of farmland, and reduce access to top tier soils and impact carbon sequestration. It is important that these lands stay as rural reserves until at least 2065.

Expanding the UGB threatens local food security. Expanding the UGB moves farmland further and further from the Portland area.

Expansion of the boundary will hurt the surrounding agricultural economy. For example: urbanizing the area makes it harder for farmers to travel between fields in different parts of the county outside the UGB. If farming is reduced, there is less opportunity for farming businesses like local small engine mechanics, seed processors, etc. so they end up closing.

Hillsboro has already burned through their industrial land for development that has not created good jobs and has been land intensive (mostly data centers). If they haven't brought good jobs over the last decade with the land they already have, how can we truly expect that to change with new land?

Increasing power lines through Forest Park to power this development has serious impacts beyond the Hillsboro area.

Thank you for considering these comments and thank you for your service.