

Submitter: Kathaleen B Parker
On Behalf Of: 1000 Friends of Oregon
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1586

FEBRUARY 12 2026

re: SB1586 - Modifies the conversion of prime farm and forest land for development, including up to 1,700 acres in the Hillsboro area.

Dear Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue,

My name is Kathaleen B Parker, from Senate District 10 in South Salem, and I am in opposition to SB1586 because it threatens Washington County's agricultural economy by rezoning prime farmland for industrial use, disrupting supply chains, and increasing land costs.

Key Arguments:

- * Agricultural Disruption: Reduces access to top-tier soil, complicates field-to-field transport, and forces out essential support businesses (mechanics, seed cleaners).
- * Economic Barriers: Drives up land prices, hindering new farmers and existing operations.
- * Resource Strain: Prioritizes high-tech, water-intensive, and power-hungry industries over sustainable land use, ignoring available space inside existing Urban Growth Boundaries.

Oregon needs a statewide economic approach that protects farming as a vital, long-term industry rather than focusing development in single areas like Hillsboro.

Thank you for your time and dedication towards a better Oregon.

Sincerely,
Kathaleen B Parker, Willamette Valley