

Submitter: Matt Allen Dela Pena
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1586

I am writing to formally express my opposition to Senate Bill SB 1586 based on its anticipated environmental impacts, its reliance on public subsidies, and the preferential tax treatment it affords large corporations.

I am deeply concerned that this legislation prioritizes rapid industrial development over responsible environmental stewardship. Provisions that expand or rezone land for advanced manufacturing risk degrading farmland, natural habitats, and water resources. Oregon's land-use protections have long reflected a commitment to balance economic growth with environmental preservation, and SB 1586 appears to weaken that balance in favor of short-term industrial expansion.

In addition, the bill's structure raises serious concerns about the use of public funds. By offering generous tax credits and incentives, SB 1586 effectively shifts financial risk from private corporations onto Oregon taxpayers. At a time when communities face pressing needs in education, housing, healthcare, and infrastructure, it is difficult to justify diverting public resources to subsidize profitable industries without clear, enforceable guarantees of public benefit.

I am also troubled by the inequity inherent in granting substantial tax breaks to large corporations while small businesses and individual taxpayers continue to shoulder a disproportionate share of the tax burden. This approach undermines the principle of fairness in taxation and risks creating a two-tiered system in which multinational companies receive preferential treatment unavailable to local enterprises.

Oregon can and should pursue economic development that is environmentally responsible, fiscally prudent, and equitable. SB 1586, as currently written, does not meet those standards. I respectfully urge you to oppose this bill or seek substantial revisions that protect local ecosystems, ensure accountability for public spending, and uphold fairness in our tax system.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I appreciate your service to our state and your attention to the concerns of your constituents.