

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

SB 1586 is a TERRIBLE idea.

For the record, my name is Philip Mandel, and I urge you to vote no on SB 1586. I am a long time Washington County resident (continuous since 1985) and care deeply about the environment. I also care about jobs and economic development, but destroying 1700 acres of pristine farmland - which is what this bill would do, if passed - is a terrible idea. If I wanted to live in a sprawling, overbuilt, traffic nightmare, I would move back to the Bay Area, whence I came.

This bill has a loophole that would allow almost unlimited data centers as long as they are "attached" to another business. Data centers DO NOT produce jobs or tax revenue.

I understand that the bill may be amended between the opening of testimony and the hearing date. This is exceptionally poor process. If the legislature wants to receive public input on legislation, it needs to let the public know what they are commenting on. But even if the bill is amended to not include a tax abatement, we understand that HB 4084 would extend the same tax abatement - potentially indefinitely. And even if the bill limits the acreage in Hillsboro's UGB to 373 and in the urban reserve to the remaining 1700 acres, Hillsboro has never proven a need for more land.

For these reasons and more, please vote NO on SB 1586.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip Mandel
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