

Submitter: Lakshmi Tata
On Behalf Of: Edible Stories Market Garden
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1586

Chair Broadman, Vice-Chair McLane, and members of the Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue:

My name is Lakshmi Tata, and I am a farmer from Hillsboro. I am writing to you today to strongly oppose SB 1586. This is an unnecessary annexation of EFU-zoned land that harms farmers, sets a bad precedent for disregarding the public process in land use matters, and prioritizes enriching a few over preserving our high-value soils.

This is Important to me because I live close to the proposed 1700 acres that are being considered to be included in the UGB and I am very concerned about the large amounts of natural resources that data centers consume, including water. There are ample stories about wells running dry in other parts of the country (For example : <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/07/14/technology/meta-data-center-water.html>) because of data centers guzzling water.

Oregon has a thriving community food system because our land use laws protect EFU land close to our urban centers. Without this land, small farmers would not be able to make all the CSAs, farmers' markets, and farm stands that Oregonians love possible. SB 1586 is not necessary; there is other land within Hillsboro's UGB and the UGB of neighboring cities like Wilsonville that are better suited.

Do not sacrifice this agricultural land for a vague promise of tech investment. Do not set a precedent of ignoring community input and public process. Do not support SB 1586.

Thank you,

Lakshmi Tata

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