

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

My name is Sarah, and I'm asking you to vote YES on SB 1586.

Oregon is competing with other states for major semiconductor projects, and those decisions happen quickly. When Oregon hesitates or sends mixed signals, companies take their investments—and their jobs—elsewhere. We've already seen opportunities slip away because we weren't ready. SB 1586 helps fix that. It ensures the Hillsboro area has ready-to-build industrial land, so when companies are ready to invest, Oregon can say "yes" with confidence.

This bill isn't just about chip factories. It's about family-wage jobs: construction workers, engineers, technicians, suppliers, and small businesses that benefit when these projects move forward. It also strengthens our tax base, which helps fund schools, infrastructure, and public services. Oregon has already received nearly \$2 billion in federal CHIPS Act funding, including major investments in Washington County and across the state. We risk losing future federal dollars and private investment to other states that are ready.

SB 1586 includes important safeguards. It limits growth to specific industrial areas, requires infrastructure and utility planning up front, protects environmental standards, and sets clear accountability and timelines. Oregon has a chance to move into the next era of the Silicon Forest, creating good jobs and long-term economic stability for families. Please don't let the next major investment pass us by. I urge you to vote YES on SB 1586.

Thank you, Sarah Smith