

Submitter: Lynsey Wakeland

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1586

My name is Lynsey Wakeland and I am a resident of Hillsboro, Oregon. I am a teacher in North Plains. Both of these cities are heavily impacted by this decision. I vehemently oppose SB 1586 for many reasons.

First, we have already burned through much of the land zoned for industrial development with data centers. There is no evidence that this brings a lot of jobs to the area given what we know from the past 10 years of doing this. All that data centers do is make our energy prices go up and cause an eye sore to the community, which drives people away from wanting to live here.

Additionally, Agriculture is Oregon's second largest industry and moves like SB 1586 make it nearly impossible for farmers to continue farming. It will make it harder for farmers to travel with tractors and farming equipment between fields. It will prevent new farmers from being able to buy land and existing farmers from being able to expand their operations.

This land is supposed to be protected until 2065. Oregon needs a statewide approach to economic development so that all Oregonians can thrive. Oregon also needs a statewide industrial lands inventory, so we can operate off the same information about where there is land available and how much there is rather than relying on an incomplete report. Further, if you want to keep more families in the state and attract people to move here for work opportunities, it would be wise to pour efforts into the current education crisis.

For these reasons and more, I ask you to vote no on SB 1586.