

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

I'm a proud union steward and member of SEIU writing to implore you to vote NO on HB 1586. Data centers are a blight on our community. We should not build more and we shouldn't subsidize existing ones with Oregon tax revenue.

Data centers cause incalculable harm to our community, environment, and economy, especially in light of the budget gap we're facing due to H.R.1. These harms include, but are not limited to, siphoning and poisoning our water, putting tremendous strain on our electrical grid, raising electricity costs for residents, creating noise pollution, and contributing to an AI environment that undermines our education system and threatens Oregonians' job security. We shouldn't reward these businesses by relieving them of tax obligations, the revenue of which could be used to fund schools, housing and food programs, along with any number of other worthwhile causes.

This year alone data centers received \$457 million in Oregon property tax breaks in Oregon. That's unacceptable.

AI is not an inevitable future. Legislatures across the country have passed legislature killing the growth of data centers in their state. This is a dead-end technology that will continue to destroy the environment, undermine education, and sow further distrust and confusion in our democracy. Furthermore it will ultimately kill jobs and reduce the leverage held by Oregonians across a variety of employment sectors.

Your job is to serve and protect Oregonians. Data centers are a malignancy that cause immeasurable harm. Vote NO on this bill and end their subsidization.