

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

Chair Broadman, Vice Chair McLane, and members of the committee,

My name is Elijah Radford and I am a Hillsboro resident. I opposed SB 1586 and any amendments that would still expand the Hillsboro UGB for any use other than housing families.

The passage of SB 1586 would result in some of the best soil in the world becoming barren. The 1700 acres of land were supposed to be protected through 2065, but this effort has been pushed through conversations not available to the public without the public's consent/engagement.

It is ever more egregious that the current enterprise zone has resulted in lost tax revenue for the community and state. Just in 2024: 191 school districts and education service districts in Oregon collectively lost \$275 million to property tax abatements, according to Good Jobs First, a nonprofit watchdog group. What is to stop this trend from continuing? Hillsboro (and Oregon as a whole) is experiencing a housing crisis, and this would only exacerbate the problem.

The bill does not prevent data centers from being built on the land, it just requires that the data center be an accessory to the business (without a cap on size). PGE stated in their investor presentation that 25% of all their energy requirements belong to data centers (30+ which are already in the enterprise zone). PGE customers have already seen a 18% raise in their electricity bill over the past 3 years -- that's 6% per year. This bill will result in more data centers, and even higher electricity bills.

So, the citizens of Hillsboro will ultimately bear the burden of: higher electricity bills, loss of farm land/farming jobs, loss of tax revenue, loss of land available to tackle the housing inventory crisis in Hillsboro, and the damage to our water supply/quality/pressure.

For these reasons and more, I ask that you vote no on SB 1586 and work to create a better future for the citizen of Hillsboro. Thank you.