

This is in regards to senate bill 1586 which proposes expanding the UGB to accommodate additional data centers. I oppose the bill and urge you to vote no.

- Oregon already has the highest tax rate in the US according to the [economic research institute](#).
- Data centers [increase the cost of utilities in communities](#) but due to tax breaks, put very little back into the community. Locations all over the USA are experiencing gigantic increases to their electricity bills and gas bills. Why would we want to bring in business that is guaranteed to increase our utility by draining the grid which the taxpayer/homeowner will have to eat the costs of?
- Data centers use a [huge amount of water](#). According to a google search a single large data center can consume up to 5 million gallons daily, equivalent to a town of 10,000 to 50,000 people. Water is a finite resource and Hillsboro is growing in population. So much so that we recently updated to get our water from the Willamette as well as the Tualatin River due to increased demand. Local water should be used for local residents, not for cooling giant data centers and draining our resources. This is especially important in recent years as we are draught prone.
- Data centers run extremely low headcounts which isn't creating very many jobs in the community.

Overall, increasing the UGB for data center growth would hurt the local community. Residents won't be able to afford utilities, no tax dollars will be going back into our schools or other resources, and they will drain our limited water. In addition, Hillsboro has a large farming community and we should support our local farmers by allowing them to continue to run their businesses without feeling they need to be bought out.

Thank you for your consideration. I urge you to protect our community and resources, and keep costs down in this trying economic time.

Thank you,

Marlena - a born and raised Oregonian