

Submitter: KATHRYN NEWMAN
On Behalf Of: self
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1586

I am writing in opposition to SB1586.

There was a promise made that this land would be kept as is when the adjacent 1100 acres was annexed. This was an agreement that was to last 50 years and now it is being broken and for what? There will be a few high payoffs and millions to be made for a few individuals, but decisions like this should be made to benefit Hillsboro and Washington County at large.

There are no “go-backs”. Once this rich soil and world class fertile land is destroyed, it can never be used again for agricultural purposes. We are losing some of the world’s best agricultural land. Data centers do not need this rich land.

Citizens are tired of broken promises. We should be able to trust that past land deals that have financial and future implications for citizens will be kept.

I have been looking for the who, what, when, where, why, and how details accompanying this. Who is asking for this land and has committed to building and producing jobs that will benefit the state/county/city? What are the specifics of this deal in regards to tax benefits to the company to the detriment of schools, parks, libraries, infrastructure, etc? When is this expansion to take place? Where are the guarantees that this agreement (again, I have yet to hear who this corporation is that is interested in this land) will be sustainable and not just the county being taken advantage of, then left to rust when the next shiny object/deal comes around? We know why based on the literature put out by those pushing this and we know that there will be some landowners that will be very wealthy just by changing the land use designation, but there are more “why” questions that are not answered. Why isn’t there more of a community meeting/townhall on this topic by those that are interested in changing the current laws?

HOW is this even legal? This does not just impact taxation.... How can it be legal to present as one thing and further down the page...there is the real intent! Here is the bill title summary: “Digest: The Act would change the tax credit for semiconductor research.”

The state and county continue to offer tax breaks that take valuable dollars/resources from many entities and our citizens are the ones to pay the price and it appears that the tax breaks will be stretched over a longer period of time. There is no sales tax; that means that companies that build or expand are already receiving a break on some purchases made. Data centers do not employ many people so the tax

revenues from income taxes will be extremely low for the amount of land/opportunity lost.

I have to admit that there is more I need to learn about this deal but right now it is not passing the 'smell test' with me. This is not a must do right now. Please allow for time for more information to come forth and questions to be answered...many were not expecting this for another 40 years! Why the rush....the hard sell in a short session makes me very uneasy and more suspicious of intent.

Kathryn Newman