

Submitter: April Atwood

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1586

For the sixth time, legislators are attempting to bring 1700 acres of prime and high-value farmland into the Hillsboro urban growth boundary outside the established urban growth boundary expansion process and without any public involvement. Agriculture is a large economic industry in Oregon and is absolutely dependent on access to top tier soils. Industrial development does not need to be located on the world's best soil! This bill - SB 1586 - does not benefit the public at all, only a few landowners who hope to make a quick buck.

The targeted land comprises some of the best agricultural land in the world. Hillsboro received over 1000 acres of industrial land in 2014, which was an ample 50-year supply. But the city has been burning through this industrial land rapidly with data center development. Data centers create very few jobs, and they are low-paying. The bill will also extend tax breaks for these same corporations, yet these companies can easily afford to pay their fair share. The bill's focus on Hillsboro ignores thousand of acres of industrial lands currently available around the state.

For these reasons I ask that you vote no on SB 1586. Thank you.