

Submitter: Serge Domkowski

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1586

Chair Broadman, Vice-Chair McLane, and members of the Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue:

My name is Serge Domkowski and I am a community member from Hillsboro. I am writing to you today to strongly oppose SB 1586. This is an unnecessary annexation of EFU zoned land that hurts farmers, sets a bad precedent for ignoring the public process in land use matters, and disregards our high value soils in favor of enriching a few.

Our local farmland is a resource that is not receiving the respect it deserves. Having local sources for food has a huge impact on our quality of health, our environment, as well as our local economy. Its value cannot be measured in GDP alone.

I understand it is not easy to be a farmer. I realize the land owners can't make nearly as much selling this land as farm land as they can selling to some corporations trying to build server farms. I do understand the difficulty in running these farms, but I see this as a need to do more to help our small local farms thrive. Not as a reason to abandon farming.

Please consider the long term impact of what it is you are proposing. It takes only a few months to turn this rich agricultural land into industrial technology complexes which may be empty within the next decade. It would take decades to make that land viable for farming again assuming it is possible at all. Do not set a precedent of ignoring community input and public process. Do not support SB 1586.

Thank you,

Serge Domkowski
Hillsboro