

Submitter: Blaine Ackley

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1586

Chair Senator Broadman, Vice-Chair Senator McLane, Senators Anderson, Patterson, and Taylor

I write to oppose this bill in the strongest terms. You should know that contrary to what some of the sponsors may say, METRO has NOT endorsed this measure. Heed the words of Washington County Commissioner Nafisa Fai who says that such a major change in the Urban Growth Boundary that disregards the past Grand Bargain of 2014 that added 2,000 acres for development should be fully discussed with many community conversations (there have been no public meetings or hearings about SB 1586).

We residents of Hillsboro are the people who will suffer because the bill has provisions to bypass taxes so we citizens must pick up the bill.

The sponsors say that there will be jobs created from this development but if you drive past any of the current data centers the parking lots are very small because they don't require many workers. Then let's look at some other issues like water and electricity. These facilities use a great deal of both and yet again, who will get to foot the bill for this, the current rate payers in Hillsboro. So this bill is a lose / lose for citizens of Hillsboro who are left without a voice at the table.

Please don;t let this bill pass your committee and put this major discussion off until next year when everyone has had a chance to weigh in and be heard. This is not a blow to progress this would be an advance to good government that is built on the basis of community trust. I urge you to defer this bill to the 2027 Legislature.

Thank you for your time and consideration.