

Submitter: Jim Gilbert

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1586

Dear Comittee Members, Senate Bill 1586 is an unnecessary taking of our fertile farmland. Agriculture is the second largest sector of Oregon's economy. It employs thousands of Oregonians, both directly and indirectly and brings billions of dollars into our state. Our farmland is an important natural resource and this proposed conversion of 1700 acres is unwise and unnecessary. There is adequate land for industiral development inside the Urban Growth Boundaries. Our farmland is some of the best in the world and Oregon's climate allows us to grow over 200 crops, helping feed us all. It is also an important asset for food security in the face of climate change and global warming.

Please vote to continue Oregons proud tradition of farmland protection and keep these 1700 acres growing crops for generations to come.

Thank you, Jim Gilbert, Molalla area farmer