

Submitter: Marjorie Miller
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1586

I am a resident of Hillsboro and am writing to express my strong opposition to SB 1586. In our community, we have seen Senator Sollman's relentless attempt to work on behalf of special interests and take farmland for data centers several times over the past couple years -- pushing through referendums in North Plains without community involvement, under the guise of the authority granted under SB4 Section 10, and now through SB1586. In case Senator Sollman did not hear us loud and clear before, we do not want this senseless development and she does not represent the priorities and views of her constituency.

We have heard the argument about bringing industry and jobs to our community, but that promise always vaporizes quickly after bulldozers arrive to build data centers which create very few jobs at the expense of our community's precious natural resources. I've visited some of the last standing farmhouses that are surrounded by data centers. I think about the people that lived in these houses whose kids played below the beautiful oak trees and listened to the sound of birds. Now, those same places are miles of concrete complexes with the only sounds the incessant whir and hum of data center cooling towers. Down the street you'll also find barely there concrete memorials for Native American and other historical landmarks. This doesn't respect the community's history and doesn't represent what I want to see for the future.

We need leadership and a legislature that will stand up for communities, for farmland, and for the preservation of natural spaces which has been part of Oregon's history for the past 50 years. We need leaders that will say NO to SB1586 for the future of all Oregonians.