

Submitter: Elianne Lieberman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1586

This bill undermines our Land Use laws that holds the promise to Oregonians to prevent urban sprawl and protect our farm lands. Agriculture is the second largest economy in the state. Stop the steal of agricultural land.

Hillsboro currently has 500 acres available for development, and has only used 30 acres of land for advanced manufacturing in the past ten years. It does not need more farm land moved into the the Urban Growth Boundary

Those folks who are saying this bill will be an economic benefit are not taking into account the environmental, climate and health costs of removing and paving over fertile farm land. Or the detrimental effects of data centers on the environment, climate and citizen's health. These negatives will affect many people in Oregon, not just those living in Hillsboro. Plus, few economists, or the folks supporting this bill, put a dollar cost of adverse affects on the environment and health, and subtract that number from the economic gains they tout.

Here is some of what will happen if more acres are taken out of the rural reserve and put into the Urban Growth Boundary for industrial use: stream, wetland and river deterioration from increased runoff carrying urban pollutants that will affect the health of the resident fish, and the quality of our drinking water. And data center use that reduces the flow and temperature of the water. Soil has a great ability to hold carbon: less soil means more carbon in the air. More carbon in the air means more intense forest fires, more people and native habitats negatively affected by high temperatures in the summer.

Vote no on SB1586.