

Submitter: Sam Richards

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1586

To whom it may concern,

I'm a resident of Hillsboro, Oregon, writing to you urging for a no vote on SB 1586. There is no limitation on the number of data centers or the acreage used in this bill. I do not want to see any further incentives for data centers built in Oregon. There are already at least 18 data centers known in Oregon. The significant strain they put on power grids (as much electricity as 100,000 households) leads to increased power bills for residents (\$9.3 billion price increase in the PJM electricity market in 2025). The amount of potable water they consume (17 billion gallons in 2023) in the era of global water bankruptcy announced by the UN is irresponsible. Not to mention the thousands of acres of farmland consumed by their footprints. Incentivizing the building of data centers is poor planning for the future of Oregonians, and prioritizing profits over people. Arguments for job creation are also poorly made, as construction projects could be created for housing Oregonians on the street, and once created they employ about 200 people, which is not worth the environmental impact data centers create for future generations of Oregonians. Please, vote no on SB 1586. Oregonians do not want more data centers.

Sources:

<https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2025/10/24/what-we-know-about-energy-use-at-us-data-centers-amid-the-ai-boom/#how-many-data-centers-are-in-the-u-s-and-where-are-they>

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2026/01/1166800>

<https://www.npr.org/2025/04/10/nx-s1-5355017/data-centers-bring-money-to-small-towns-but-do-they-also-bring-jobs>