



February 17, 2026

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Chair Broadman and Senate Finance Committee Members,

My name is Daniela Brod and I am writing to you in opposition to SB1586 on behalf of the Urban Greenspaces Institute.

Stand-alone data centers are not allowed under this bill, but accessory data centers are; If you care about affordable energy, this bill is not for you. Data centers are driving an energy affordability crisis - one where our electrical grid is already at or near its breaking point. Add climate commitments to get ourselves weaned off fossil fuels –wanting to decline our demand for natural gas while increasing our demand for electricity– so we can drive our electric cars and install our home heat pumps. With our need to transition to a cleaner energy economy, the strain on the system continues to grow. I understand the huge pressure to accommodate these corporate interests, but it does not *have to* happen on the backs of those in our communities having a hard time paying the electric bills.

This bill hurts the Tualatin River and local farmers. What’s done on the land is written on the water. The land covered by this bill has some of the best soils in the world and supports Tualatin River watershed wildlife. Paving it over means these natural functions are lost forever. This bill is bad for anyone who wants a future where we grow food closer to home and minimize heat-island pavement. If you want a region best-prepared for oncoming climate change, this bill isn’t for you.

If you care about human rights, this bill is not for you. Oregonians have a right to a functioning democracy. Decisions of this magnitude should be transparent - not subject to backroom deals where moneyed corporate interests drown out the interests of the local community. I implore you to ask yourself before your vote, “Do I represent corporations needing a quick fix to their problems or my constituents?”

Last- if common sense matters to you, this bill is not for you. It will extend tax breaks for companies that can easily afford to pay their fair share. I ask that you not give away some of Oregon’s most valuable farming and watershed land to companies who can afford to approach their data center problem in a different way.

Say No to a bill that lacks common sense and disregards our livable future.

Respectfully,

Daniela Brod
Board Chair

In Livable Cities is Preservation of the Wild

P.O. Box 6903 | Portland, OR 97228-6903 | 503.319.7155 | www.urbangreenspaces.org