

Chair Girod and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dr. Catherine Thomasson. I am speaking on behalf of MCAT-Mobiling Climate Action Together and Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network.. We are opposed to HB 4084 as written.

Data Centers should not get huge property tax breaks in Oregon for three reasons:

- They don't provide that many jobs beyond initial construction.
- They already get a tax break in Oregon because we don't have a sales tax on both initial construction and when they upgrade their servers.
- Third, they will come to Oregon because of our 10 undersea internet fiber optic cables.

To address this, I encourage you to vote for the -21 amendment which will stop all Data Centers and Crypto mining centers from getting new enterprise zone property tax exemptions on property and machinery and equipment.

These tax breaks don't just harm the local area by reducing school, fire, library and other local funding, they also take a large chunk of money from our General Fund. Most school districts are given state funding to back fill their school budget, including 55% for Hillsboro.

Not only that but we still have a huge hole in our Revenue Budget

The -24 amendment is not nearly as efficient in addressing this issue. It would place a moratorium on data center applications for extensions or new tax exemptions for only one year. It would not start until 90 days after adjournment.

We need funding to conserve our meager revenue to fund water conservation projects for cities and farmers in the face of drought. We have no funding for prevention of wildfire impacts on our communities and homes in the Wild Urban Interface.

Please weigh these amendments carefully and vote to protect Oregon.

Thanks for your service in the legislature.