

Submitter: Elizabeth Cox

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Semiconductors

Measure: SB4

Dear Public Policy People,

I am writing as a resident and Realtor of Hillsboro. My family moved to Hillsboro in 1972. I have seen the positive and negative changes to the area. Hillsboro was a small town with one High School and every kid worked in the summer in the strawberry fields. Yes times have changed and many wonderful improvements have come to Hillsboro including four High Schools. The beautiful farms and forest lands surrounding Hillsboro are slowly going away to Industrial zoning and large housing tracts. The press is reporting we need more land for high tech companies to move to the area, however, you give away the best parcels to the data centers. It has been awful to witness the building of data centers for the past several years. These sites take up land and do not create the jobs needed for the local residents. The homeowners on either side of Sunset Highway are panicking because the City wants to take their homes and land to rezone it to Industrial. This is awful. These homes have been established for many decades. We have a new wave of farmers in the area that have created local produce to sell as shares to the community to pick up and enjoy thru out the year. During 2020, I signed up for a CSA share in Hillsboro. It was a lifesaver to get local healthy food on a weekly basis when people were afraid to go to the grocery store. Hillsboro has a shortage of small hobby farm parcels, please do not take these options away. Oregon prides itself on the land use planning laws that have been established to protect our wonderful State. Please do not turn our area into an ugly mess.

Thank you

Elizabeth Cox