



Testimony in support of HB 3546
House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment

Bandana Shrestha, State Director
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AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization with 500,000 members in Oregon. We work to improve the quality of life for all as we age and advocate on issues that matter to 50+ Oregonians.

AARP Oregon supports House Bill 3546 and urges your support of the bill to protects utility customers from having to pay the costs to serve data centers.

While we support a robust economy and economic development, without this legislation, these new large round the clock loads threaten to put upward pressure on Oregon's already rapidly increasing electricity rates.

Under current law, all customers pay to serve new loads. However, because the consumption of these new large load data centers is so large and the cost to serve them so massive, it is imperative that they bear the burden of such costs.

Other states like Ohio, Virginia, Indiana and Illinois are passing similar reforms at their legislatures or at their Public Service Commissions. Existing Oregon electric utility ratepayers needs similar protections.

We urge you to support HB 3546. Thank you for your consideration.