

Submitter: Kelly Presley  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Revenue  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4084

Governor Kotek,

I'm writing to urge you to end Oregon's property tax breaks for data centers. We should no longer provide big tech and private equity firms with tax breaks to build what they will build with or without our subsidies. As your constituent, I'm concerned about the harms that data centers can do to our communities, including siphoning our water, using up our land, creating noise and light pollution, and hiking our electric bills.

I'm also concerned that providing tax breaks to giant corporations and wealthy investors deprives our schools and local budgets of much-needed tax revenue. This last aspect is most notable considering the hurdle being faced by the transit tax. Our state continues to try and fund the government on the backs of the middle and lower classes and it is simply not sustainable. Providing these tax breaks to wealthy individuals and corporations provides nothing for the citizenry when we can't afford any of the basic services for individuals.

Our communities can't afford to continue to subsidize data centers that take so much and give so little. This year alone they are receiving \$457 million in property tax breaks in Oregon. As a taxpayer, I certainly don't want to subsidize their tax breaks. Please amend your bill, HB 4084, to make data centers no longer eligible for the property tax breaks they are using – the Standard or Long Term Rural E-Zones or SIPS. The tech bros' corporations and private equity firms like BlackRock will continue to build in Oregon, because even without these property tax breaks we'll still be providing a better tax environment than either of our neighboring west coast states.

Thank you,  
Kelly Presley, North Plains