

To: Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue

Subject: Oral Testimony on SB 1586

February 23, 2026,

Good Morning Chair Broadman, Vice-Chair McLane, Committee Members

I am Dr. Theodora Tsongas, an environmental health scientist with a career in public health. I urge you to vote no on SB1586 for the following reasons:

The real concerns of the local affected communities that would have to pay for these semiconductor projects and live with their side-effects have not been adequately considered, nor have those of the State regarding adverse impacts of this industry on water, air, land, and land use. There is nothing whatever in this bill or the amendments that addresses the costs of unsustainable development, either the cost of poor health or the costs of environmental degradation. The semiconductor industry including data centers is known for its inadequate management of hazardous materials and degradation of local and regional environments. Keeping toxic and persistent chemicals out of air, water and the bodies of workers and residents and disposal of wastes is a significant problem for this industry. Who will pay for permanent loss of valuable resources? And what do we get for it? Few permanent jobs, compromised air, water quantity and quality, loss of irreplaceable class one agricultural lands and produce from those lands, reduced livability of communities.

Not only does it use up our resources, this industry continues to generate excessive amounts of greenhouse gases, significantly adding to Oregon's inability to meet climate goals, when we are already at 1.5 degrees celsius, the tipping point beyond which the heating of the earth accelerates. We are in an emergency. With no safeguards against costs and threats to life and health that would be included, we simply cannot afford this windfall for the semiconductor industry.

Please vote NO on SB 1586. Thank you for your attention to our concerns.