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On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1586

As a life long resident of Washington County, I have been witness to the slow but steady encroaching of the urban growth boundary by the tech industry. With the understanding that growth and change is inevitable, it's also important to recognize when that growth will actively benefit our community and when it will be harmful.

SB 1586 does not show any promise whatsoever of positively impacting anyone but the owners of the GLOBAL businesses that will benefit from the tax breaks allowed to them for putting their data centers where our precious farmland used to be. Why would we allow businesses located anywhere in the world to leach money from our pockets in exchange for a handful of heinous data centers that won't even generate jobs in our community once they're built and completed?

Also worth noting is that the entire AI industry is growing in a bubble that will inevitably burst. Long after the demand for AI this and AI that has ceased, our community will still need fresh drinking water and affordable utilities in order to provide a quality of life that will incentivize us to remain here instead of leaving for other more affordable states like so many Oregonians have been doing in recent years.

Lastly, the proposed tax credits aren't even set to kick in until the next budget period because we all already know that it's not the time for this nonsense in the current budget period. If it's already being delayed until the grass is (hopefully) greener, then why is there no limit to the amount of potential tax credit issued between 2031-2036? This is ridiculous and irresponsible.

Please do the right thing by Oregon citizens who care about preserving the quality of life here that makes Oregon an appealing place to live and do business in. Keep the tens of millions of dollars that would go toward these tax credits and instead invest them in our crumbling infrastructure, housing the ever growing population of those unhoused, and making child care more accessible for those of us working in the community and actively contributing to the local economy.