



Save Helvetia  
13260 N.W. Bishop Road  
Hillsboro, Oregon 97124

[www.SaveHelvetia.org](http://www.SaveHelvetia.org)

March 6, 2023

RE: Senate Bill 4 - **OPPOSED (especially to Sections 10 and 11)**

Honorable Members of the Joint Committee on Semiconductors

### **Quality of life should be our goal - not a Silicon Valley wannabee**

In its quest to become a Silicon Valley wannabee, Hillsboro is determined to eradicate the balance between agriculture and technology, exterminating its agricultural heritage from its identity. Driving towards downtown Hillsboro, you pass miles of sterile corporate concrete fortresses, devoid of any character. *Emulating Silicon Valley is not a model most citizens support.*

I lived and worked in Silicon Valley from 1955 to 1985. I saw how the skyrocketing costs of housing pushed out long-time residents, gentrified neighborhoods and diminished equity and inclusion. Traffic, the high cost of living and the lack of economic diversity in Silicon Valley have created an environment that has many trying to escape the area. *Imitating Silicon Valley should not be our goal. The state needs to balance tech around the state and not over-concentrate tech in one city.*

**If you vote for SB4, please be aware that what **YOU** create, **WE** have to deal with:**

#### **Traffic**

According to ECONorthwest, a new semiconductor plant will support 26,000 new jobs annually. That means 26,000 more single-driver cars backed up at NW Jackson School Road and NW Brookwood Road, idling to get on US-26 at shift changes - in addition to 22,000 Intel employees. Congratulations - you have just added 120,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide every year to worsen our air quality!

## **Housing**

Hillsboro is already short about 13,000 housing units. Add 26,000 more families and voila! Hillsboro is now short 39,000 housing units. South Hillsboro is not going to solve the housing shortfall. I know families who bought homes in South Hillsboro two years ago and are now selling out because they realized how bad the commute is.

What will draw people to want to live in the area if Hillsboro is concentrated with industrial land? People will move to Tigard, Beaverton and other communities and commute into Hillsboro - clogging roads and taking higher income earners to locations that are more pristine and desirable, as we have seen with Bethany and the West Hills. They will find affordable housing in Vancouver and Washington State, enduring long commutes in order to give their families a decent home. I wouldn't put it past Hillsboro to whine that now they need to gobble more farmland to the west or north in Helvetia to accommodate housing for the semiconductor industry workers.

**Be careful what you wish for -**

**Silicon Valley is not a successful model for quality of life.**

**Decentralize the semiconductor industry throughout Oregon - there are plenty of sites INSIDE other cities' UGBs**

**Please VOTE NO on Senate Bill 4.**

Respectfully submitted,

Cherry Amabisca, M.B.A.

President, Save Helvetia

Director and Manager for 6 technology firms, including Motorola, Intel, Hewlett-Packard in Silicon Valley, Arizona and Oregon

[https://www.portlandtribune.com/business/fate-of-hillsboros-future-tech-expansions-in-the-hands-of-oregon-lawmakers/article\\_b3857ce0-864a-5122-a31b-e0ba5d877f44.html](https://www.portlandtribune.com/business/fate-of-hillsboros-future-tech-expansions-in-the-hands-of-oregon-lawmakers/article_b3857ce0-864a-5122-a31b-e0ba5d877f44.html)

<https://www.epa.gov/greenvehicles/greenhouse-gas-emissions-typical-passenger-vehicle#typical-passenger>

