



## HOUSE REPUBLICAN OFFICE

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*#ThrowbackThursday*

### House Republican Leader Mike McLane Joins OPB For A Discussion On Data Centers In Central Oregon



Last Friday, House Republican Leader Mike McLane (R-Powell Butte) joined [Think Out Loud](#) on OPB for a town hall discussion about data centers in central Oregon. Joined by Prineville Mayor Betty Roppe and Prineville community leaders and residents, Rep. McLane discussed the impact of data centers on small communities still working to recover from the economic recession. He also highlighted the passage and

signing of Senate Bill 611 and the many months of bipartisan discussions and compromises needed to craft the bill.

The small central Oregon community of Prineville, located in Rep. McLane's district, House District 55, is home to several data centers built by tech giants like Apple and Facebook, and has secured agreements for additional facilities to be built, including a significant expansion by Apple.

From OPB:

*"Both Facebook and Apple have built data centers in Prineville (population 9,253) in the last few years, but city administrators say they'd like to see a few more. The economy of the area has been particularly depressed after Les Schwab, which was headquartered here, moved to Bend in 2008 – and after the roof collapsed last fall at Woodgrain Millwork, one of the largest employers in town..."*

*"Rep. Mike McLane points to an economic impact study which found that every 10 jobs at the Facebook data center support 14 jobs elsewhere in Oregon...McLane says having data centers in Oregon is better than not having them here at all."*

Last month, both the Oregon House and Oregon Senate passed [Senate Bill 611](#), bipartisan legislation that provides certainty to technology and communications companies looking to operate and expand in Oregon. Signed into law by Governor Kate Brown last week, SB 611 opens the door for Oregon to become a national leader in technology and communications infrastructure, and secures family-wage jobs at high-tech data centers in rural parts of the state.

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[www.oregonlegislature.gov/mclane](http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/mclane)