

The County Commissioners of Kent County

P. THOMAS MASON
PRESIDENT
CHESTERTOWN, MD

RONALD H. FITHIAN
MEMBER
ROCK HALL, MD

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SHELLEY L. HELLER
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

THOMAS N. YEAGER
COUNTY ATTORNEY

February 4, 2020

The Honorable Guy Guzzone, Chair
Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: **SUPPORT** Senate Bill 0397 - Sales and Use Tax and Personal Property Tax - Exemptions - Data Centers

Dear Chair Guzzone and Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee:

The County Commissioners of Kent County, Maryland fully support Senate Bill 0397. The proposed bill encourages data centers to locate in the State therefore giving Maryland a competitive place in the market for data center attraction. The industry is both environmentally friendly and provides high paying jobs. Those two factors are very desirable to rural areas, particularly Kent County, a Tier I county. Kent County's substantial investment in fiber infrastructure has positioned us to attract technology-based businesses. Additionally, businesses that follow data center locations create jobs and increase State and county tax revenues.

Please take into consideration the significant opportunities Senate Bill 0397 would create for rural areas like Kent County. For the reasons stated above, The County Commissioners of Kent County respectfully request a favorable consideration of Senate Bill 0397.

Very truly yours,

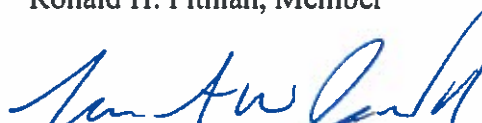
THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND



P. Thomas Mason, President



Ronald H. Fithian, Member



Robert N. Jacob, Jr., Member



The Honorable Guy Guzzone and Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee
SUPPORT Senate Bill 0397 - Sales and Use Tax and Personal Property Tax - Exemptions - Data Centers
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cc: The Honorable Stephen S. Hershey, Jr
The Honorable Jay A. Jacobs
The Honorable Steven J. Arentz
The Honorable Jefferson L. Ghrist
Jamie Williams, Director, Economic Development