

**Testimony Supporting HB270
House Economic Matters Committee**

January 21, 2025

Position: SUPPORT

Dear Chair C.T. Wilson and Members of the Committee,

As a resident of Montgomery County, Maryland, I am concerned with the proposed and pending expansion of data centers in Maryland. I am concerned with the increased demands on electricity and water that these data centers will require to meet the needs of AI searches and responses. Our transmission grid within PJM is already under strain, especially during peak demands that are increasing in frequency and duration due to climate change. The large scale expansion of demand required by new data centers will likely make it next to impossible for Maryland to meet its clean energy goals and to meet its commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. I am also concerned with the demands these facilities will make on our water supply, as they will need access to on site facilities to cool the servers. Other concerns I have include land use designations, and increased taxes and ratepayer bills to finance the cost of data centers.

Therefore, I am writing to express my strong support of HB270, the Data Center Impact Analysis and Report Act.

Sincerely,
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