

My name is **David Carberry**, and I am the founder of **Enradius**, a digital advertising company that has been based in Maryland since its inception.

When the **Digital Ad Tax** was first introduced in **2021**, businesses like mine were assured that we would be protected. That was not true. Since its implementation, we have been taxed nearly **\$40,000**, despite not being a large tech platform. We are a digital advertising company that helps small and mid-sized businesses grow, yet we are being burdened with costs that we cannot simply pass along to our customers.

Now, with **HB1554** proposing an additional **2.5% increase**, it is clear that Maryland is making it even harder for companies like mine to survive. This tax comes at a time when inflation has already increased costs across the board—whether it's labor, software, or services.

In **2020**, **Enradius had 13 employees**. Since then, we have been forced to **cut our workforce in half**. We have had to scale back, adjust operations, and fight to stay competitive. Now, with **government contracts in jeopardy**, this tax threatens not just our growth, but our very ability to sustain operations.

Maryland should be focused on **attracting and retaining businesses**, not driving them away. This tax does not hurt large corporations—it hurts companies like mine and the businesses we serve. If HB1554 moves forward, Maryland will lose even more local businesses, jobs, and revenue.

I strongly urge you to reconsider this tax increase and the impact it will have on small businesses across the state. Thank you.