

SENATE BILL 116

M5, M3, C8

(5lr0787)

ENROLLED BILL

— *Education, Energy, and the Environment/Economic Matters* —

Introduced by ~~Senator Lewis Young~~ Senators Lewis Young and Ready

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

_____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Data Center Impact Analysis and Report**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of the Environment, *the Maryland Energy*
4 *Administration*, ~~the Maryland Energy Administration~~, and the University of
5 Maryland School of Business, in coordination with the Department of Legislative
6 Services, to conduct an analysis of the likely environmental, *energy*, ~~energy~~, and
7 economic impacts of data center development in the State; and generally relating to
8 data centers.

9 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
10 That:

11 (a) The Department of the Environment, *the Maryland Energy Administration*,
12 ~~the Maryland Energy Administration~~, and the University of Maryland School of Business,
13 in coordination with the Department of Legislative Services, shall conduct an analysis of

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 the likely environmental, ~~energy, energy,~~ and economic impacts of data center development
2 in the State.

3 (b) The analysis shall include:

4 (1) an assessment by the Department of the Environment of the potential
5 impacts of the data center industry on the natural resources of the State, including an
6 evaluation of:

7 (i) the potential impacts on air and water quality;

8 (ii) the potential impacts on the State's ability to meet its bay
9 restoration goals and other environmental objectives; and

10 (iii) the availability of technologies that could mitigate the
11 environmental impacts of data centers, and the feasibility of implementing these
12 technologies in the State;

13 (2) an assessment by the Maryland Energy Administration of the potential
14 energy impacts of the data center industry, including an evaluation of:

15 (i) the energy requirements of data centers;

16 (ii) the potential impacts of the data center industry on current and
17 forecasted energy demand and supply in the State, including how data centers will likely
18 affect future energy infrastructure needs and costs paid by ratepayers; and

19 (iii) the potential impacts of the data center industry on the State's
20 ability to meet greenhouse gas emissions reduction commitments and clean energy goals;

21 ~~(2) an assessment by the Maryland Energy Administration of the potential~~
22 ~~energy impacts of the data center industry, including an evaluation of:~~

23 ~~(i) the energy requirements of data centers;~~

24 ~~(ii) the potential impacts of the data center industry on current and~~
25 ~~forecasted energy demand and supply in the State, including how data centers will likely~~
26 ~~affect future energy infrastructure needs and costs paid by ratepayers; and~~

27 ~~(iii) the potential impacts of the data center industry on the State's~~
28 ~~ability to meet greenhouse gas emissions reduction commitments and clean energy goals;~~
29 and

30 ~~(3) (2) (3)~~ (3) an assessment by the University of Maryland School of Business,
31 in consultation with industry experts, of the potential economic and fiscal impacts of the
32 data center industry in the State, including an evaluation of:

1 (i) the likely impact of data centers on State and local revenues and
 2 expenditures; and

3 (ii) the jobs likely to be created through the construction and
 4 operation of data centers.

5 (c) (1) The Department of Legislative Services shall coordinate the
 6 preparation of the analysis and synthesize the assessments by the Department of the
 7 Environment, ~~the Maryland Energy Administration, the Maryland Energy~~
 8 ~~Administration,~~ and the University of Maryland School of Business into a final report.

9 (2) At the request of the Department of Legislative Services, other relevant
 10 units of State government, including the Department of Natural Resources, the
 11 Department of Assessments and Taxation, the Department of Commerce, ~~the Maryland~~
 12 ~~Energy Administration,~~ and the Public Service Commission, shall provide any information
 13 necessary to complete the analysis.

14 (3) On or before September 1, 2026, the Department of Legislative Services
 15 shall submit the final report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State
 16 Government Article, the General Assembly.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
 18 1, 2025. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30, 2027,
 19 this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and
 20 of no further force and effect.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.