



February 9, 2020

Senator Stephen S. Hershey, Jr.  
James Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street, Room 420  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Senator Hershey,

On behalf of the seven – hundred businesses and organizations representing the Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce, we are united in our support of SB 397 and HB 1339, which provides a Sale-and-use tax exemption for the sale of qualified computer technology to include computer equipment, for us at a qualified data center in Maryland. SB 397 and HB 1339 can make Maryland competitive with our neighbors and attract data center businesses to our state. Data center generate significant local tax revenues in addition to important employment centers, in particular in areas of our State that need job growth. In Virginia for example, in several jurisdictions every dollar spent in county expenditures related to this industry brought in more than \$8 in tax revenue. Maryland must provide this tax incentive in order to capture our share of this lucrative business sector.

Our member businesses and organizations represent more than 50,000 employees on the shore. We strongly urge the General Assembly to pass these bills and give Maryland another vital tool to broaden our business and employment base.

Sincerely,

William R. Chambers  
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THE CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE OF THE  
UNITED STATES  
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