

Executive Board

Bob Meffley
Chair
Cecil County
Councilman

February 10, 2020

Chris Corchiarino
1st Vice Chair
Queen Anne's County
Councilman

The Honorable Guy Guzzone
3 West Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: LOS SB 397 – Sales and Use Tax and Personal Property Tax – Exemptions – Data Centers

Tom Mason
2nd Vice Chair
Kent County
Commissioner

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Upper Shore Regional Council fully supports SB397 providing an exemption from the sales and use tax for certain qualified computer technology equipment for use at a qualified data center.

Jackie Gregory
3rd Vice Chair
Cecil County
Councilwoman

The proposed bill encourages data centers to locate in the state of Maryland. This industry is both environmentally friendly and provides high paying jobs that are especially needed in the rural areas of Maryland, preferably, the eastern shore.

Jack Wilson
Secretary
Queen Anne's County
Councilman

Virginia passed similar legislation eleven years ago and has seen an incredible increase in data centers during that time, partially due to the sales and use tax exemptions offered by the State. SB 397 would level the playing field and attract data center business to Maryland, and support the state as a leader in innovation and investment in cyber and information technology.

Ron Fithian
Treasurer
Kent County
Commissioner

Records show that increased state and county tax revenues and additional jobs are realized from the businesses that follow data center locations.

Stephen S. Hershey
Senator, District 36
Maryland General
Assembly

The eastern shore, and the state of Maryland are open for business. The attraction of technology based businesses is a priority. We respectfully request favorable consideration of SB397.

Sincerely,



Susan O'Neill
Executive Director

Susan O'Neill
Executive Director
soncill@kentgov.org

Cc: Bob Meffley, Chair
Tom Mason, Commissioner, Kent County
Jamie Williams, Director, Kent County Economic Development Office
Shelley Heller, County Administrator, Kent County