



**TECHNET**  
THE VOICE OF THE  
INNOVATION ECONOMY

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March 9, 2021

The Delegate Dereck E. Davis, Chair  
House Economic Matters Committee  
Room 231, House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**Re: HB 1262 – Support with Amendments**

Dear Chair Davis and members Committee,

I write on behalf of TechNet to respectfully request amendments be made to HB 1262 to prevent unintended hardships in the use of common home and office technology.

*TechNet is the national, bipartisan network of technology CEOs and senior executives that promotes the growth of the innovation economy by advocating a targeted policy agenda at the federal and 50-state level. Our diverse membership includes dynamic American businesses ranging from startups to the most iconic companies on the planet and represents over three million employees and countless customers in the fields of information technology, e-commerce, the sharing and gig economies, advanced energy, cybersecurity, venture capital, and finance.*

Limited-power technologies such as Power over Ethernet (PoE) provides limited energy via ethernet ports and not through traditional outlets. It is a widespread and historically safe energy source for a wide variety of devices found in homes and offices throughout the country.

Limited-power devices include IP phones, security cameras, internet routers, WiFi access points, audio speakers, badge readers, lighting, and many more – and this list grows each year. These devices are widely available at local retailers, safe to use, and ready to plug in and use. HB 1262 would require that these everyday devices be installed by a licensed electrician.

The proposed amendment would clearly define limited energy work and establish a workgroup to determine how to properly qualify individuals who install these kinds of devices. This language will allow Marylanders to continue utilizing these devices while maintaining the intentions of the underlying legislation.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony and the attached proposed amendment. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,



Christopher Gilrein  
Executive Director, Massachusetts and the Northeast  
TechNet  
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