

# Mid-Atlantic Pipe Trades Association

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## **Education, Energy, and Environment Committee**

**To:** Senator Brian Feldman, Chair; Senator Cheyl Kagen, Vice Chair; Members of the Committee  
**From:** Jason Ascher, Political Director, Mid-Atlantic Pipe Trades Association.

### **OPPOSE SB 116 – Data Center Impact Analysis and Report**

On behalf of the Mid-Atlantic Pipe Trades Association and our five United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters Locals, which represent 10,000+ Plumbers, Steamfitter, Welders, HVAC Techs, and Sprinkler Fitters across Maryland, I ask you to **OPPOSE SB 116**.

For the better part of the last 20 years, the data center industry in Northern Virginia has continued to grow and provide significant tax revenue. At the center of that expansion are the United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters members, especially the members of Steamfitters 602 and Plumbers Local 5. These jobs have allowed Steamfitter 602 to grow to a 6000-member Local Union. They provide jobs both during the construction and in the service/maintenance.

The industry is looking to move into Maryland and bring much-needed tax revenue to the state. With the loss of manufacturing and the old-style power plants data centers are the new heavy industry. While many sectors in construction have moved to the Labor Brokers and Wage Theft business model, the data center industry has worked to ensure their contractor are not violating labor laws, while providing a needed service that is not going anywhere.

For the reasons previously mentioned, I ask you to **OPPOSE SB 116**

Sincerely,

Jason Ascher  
Political Director

7050 Oakland Mills Road, Suite 180  
Columbia, MD 21046

