



**CALVERT COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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*Board of Commissioners*

Mark C. Cox Sr.  
Catherine M. Grasso  
Earl F. Hance  
Mike Hart  
Todd Ireland

February 11, 2025

The Honorable Delegate Vanessa E. Atterbeary, Chair  
Ways and Means Committee  
130 Taylor House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: HB949 – Calvert County - Payment in Lieu of Taxes Agreements - Qualified Data Centers

Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and Committee Members:

The Board of County Commissioners for Calvert County writes in **SUPPORT** of **HB949** and requests a **FAVORABLE** Committee report. This Bill is enabling legislation that allows the local government, and its citizens, to contemplate a Payment of Lieu of Tax (“PILOT”) for cloud computing centers. A PILOT program ensures negotiated payments are made to the local government; instead of a bill for local taxes, the taxpayer receives an invoice for the negotiated payment due. These agreements ease budgeting for public services, such as schools, roads, and emergency services, because revenues are predictable; additionally, there will be no appeals of assessment. In short, a PILOT agreement provides a clear, and mutually agreed-upon, financial arrangement.

PILOT agreements are also a tool to attract the significant infrastructure and investment these cloud computing centers require. Hosting a cloud computing center leads to job creation (both direct and indirect) and economic growth in the region. A PILOT agreement also affords an opportunity to mitigate any less attractive aspects of this land use. By way of example, a PILOT for a cloud computing center can be structured to balance the interests of both the local government and the company. A PILOT can create incentives:

- For using green energy to power the facility;
- Ensuring responsible water usage, including the use of reclaimed grey water; and
- For infrastructure development and sustainability programs.

Your thoughtful consideration of this request is sincerely appreciated. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact County Administrator Julian M. Willis at 410-535-1600, extension 2202, or Economic Development Director, Julie Oberg at 410-535-1600, extension 2485.

Sincerely,  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND

Earl F. Hance, President

Todd Ireland, Vice President

Mark C. Cox Sr.

Catherine M. Grasso

Mike Hart

cc: Calvert County Senators and Delegation