

February 14, 2025

Maryland General Assembly House Ways and Means Committee 130 Taylor House Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: HB 949, Calvert County – Payment in Lieu of Taxes Agreements – Qualified Data Centers (Favorable)

Chair Atterbeary and Members of the House Ways and Means Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Data Center Coalition to encourage a favorable vote on HB 949. DCC is the national membership association for the data center industry with leading data center owners and operators, as well as companies that lease large amounts of data center capacity. Data centers provide the digital infrastructure that supports many sectors of the 21st-century economy--including artificial intelligence, financial services, advanced manufacturing, cybersecurity, healthcare, and other key industries.

Data centers drive investment in the data center supply chain and beyond, which includes suppliers, service providers, construction firms, heavy equipment, rental companies, fiber and HVAC installers, hotels, restaurants, among others. Last year, Maryland enacted SB 474, The Critical Infrastructure Streamlining Act of 2024, which helps to ensure regulatory predictability and consistency to support the growth of data center jobs and investment in Maryland. HB 949 would build on Maryland's efforts to attract and incentivize business investment in the state, leading to additional jobs and broader economic benefits for the state economy and local economies. We encourage your support of HB 949.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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