



**TESTIMONY OF  
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—  
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LOBBYIST**

—  
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**SB992 - DATA CENTER REGISTRY**  
**FAVORABLE**  
EDUCATION, ENERGY, AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE  
MARCH 12TH, 2026

Chair Feldman, Vice-Chair Kagan, and members of the EEE Committee,

On behalf of the Chesapeake Climate Action Network Action Fund, I urge a favorable report on SB992,

Senate Bill 992 establishes a regulatory framework for large load customers in Maryland, requiring them to register with the Public Service Commission. SB 992 will collect information from data centers looking to build in Maryland. This information will allow the State to better plan and prepare for data centers. It will also allow for improved load forecasts, which are currently overestimating demand from data centers that are shopping around, leading to an increase in capacity costs.

Under SB 992 Large load customers must register with the Commission before interconnecting with the electric system. The registration process, to be established by the PSC by January 1, 2027, requires customers to disclose similar interconnection requests in Maryland or the PJM region. This is intended to improve load forecasting, which is having an impact on capacity costs right now.

Additional information data centers will be required to disclose include:

- Intentions to build their own energy generation or use the distribution system.
- Details regarding on-site backup generation and monthly water usage, including the status of necessary water permits.
- Proof of site control through ownership or lease.

**Financial and Infrastructure Obligations**

The bill asks for documentation of financial commitments for the development of necessary transmission infrastructure. These include:

- Providing security on a dollar-per-megawatt basis.

- Financing transmission construction or paying for equipment and services in advance.
- Providing financial security to the State to ensure residential customers are held harmless for costs associated with new energy capacity procurement.

By addressing the issue of “phantom load” SB 992 can prevent Maryland from building out costly grid infrastructure that will never be used.

Additionally, SB 992 ensures that curtailment orders and costs from PJM assigned to an electric company serving large load customers are passed through only to those large load customers, protecting other utility customers from the impact. This means that if there is not enough power to go around, data centers would be turned off first, protecting residential customers who may need electricity for oxygen or other vital medical needs.