

SB0596\_RichardKaplowitz\_FAV

03/05/2026

Richard Keith Kaplowitz

Frederick, MD 21703

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**TESTIMONY ON SB#0596- POSITION: FAVORABLE**

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**Large Load Customers - Electric System Interconnection and Demand Response Program**

**TO:** Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and members of the Education, Energy and the Environment Committee

**FROM:** Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB#0596, **Large Load Customers - Electric System Interconnection and Demand Response Program**

This bill has become necessary due to actions by the Federal Government. According to Utility Watch *DOE large load interconnection proposal sparks federal-state jurisdiction concerns - State regulators, lawmakers and ratepayer advocates voiced alarm over the department's interconnection proposal....*<sup>1</sup>

The U.S. Department of Energy's proposal for federal regulators to set rules for interconnecting data centers and other large loads to the transmission system has sparked major jurisdictional concerns, according to filings at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Under the Federal Power Act, states have jurisdiction over retail load interconnections, regardless of their size, as well as "end-use" electricity sales... "If jurisdiction for interconnection of large loads is claimed by the FERC, what is the process for determining how those large loads will impact an already strained power supply, and who bears responsibility for managing and mitigating the ensuing reliability concerns?"

Maryland can and should take action to protect our states' control over energy distribution within Maryland.

This bill will exempt certain large load customers from requirements to obtain a certificate of public convenience and necessity; requiring the Public Service Commission to establish a certain process for large load customers to interconnect to the electric system; establishing requirements for a large load customer to interconnect to the electric system and contract for service; authorizing certain large load customers to receive certain prioritization; etc.

**I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB#0596.**

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.utilitydive.com/news/doe-large-load-interconnection-ferc-naruc/806278/>